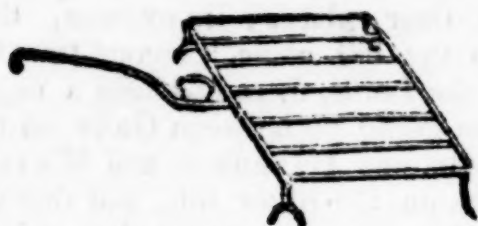


COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

Vol. 76.—No. 13.]

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 30TH, 1832.

[Price 1s. 2d.]



FLOGGING SOLDIERS!

ALAS! I, in my eagerness to see this put an end to, thought that THE LIAR had, for once in his life, spoken truth! thought that good had come out of NAZARETH a second time. But I now find that this villanous, lying *reporter* of the *Morning Chronicle*, stated the result of the debate in a way just contrary to the truth, and that the House of Commons produced *fifteen* for the abolition of flogging, and *thirty-three* against the abolition of flogging; so that there were more than two to one in the House for the continuation of the flogging. I copied the debate and the result literally from the *Morning Chronicle*; though I confess that I ought not to have believed anything that I saw in its dirty columns, which are manifestly now the sole property of the filthy Whigs. It was a *great mistake*, to be sure, to suppose that this House was for the abolition of flogging; but it drew forth statements and arguments which have produced a great impression upon the public, and none of which are invalidated, in the smallest degree, by this falsehood in the *reporter*. The subscription for SOMERVILLE is going on at my shop, where a book is open for the purpose.

WM. COBBETT.

TO THE ELECTORS OF ENGLAND.

LETTER II.

Base Designs of the Whigs, and their City Intrigues, carried on by BOWRING and others, against the Pledges.

MY FRIENDS,

In order that you may act a part worthy of yourselves and your country; in order that you may choose proper men, and reject impostors, it is necessary that you form a true estimate of the men who are now in power; that you judge rightly with regard to what they have hitherto done; and that you clearly understand their present designs; which designs, in my view of the matter, are as base and detestable as any that ever entered into the mind of man. Their hangers-on are at work in every part of the country, to make the people believe that the Reform Bill proceeded entirely from their love of freedom; and that they wanted no motive other than their own just disposition to give us that bill. Now, mark the following facts: FIRST, that every one of the present Ministers, Lord GREY and Lord HOLLAND excepted, has been, at some time or other, a ridiculer and a contemner of parliamentary reform and that three-fourths of them have been bitter persecutors of the reformers; SECOND, that Lord GREY himself, never at any time of his life, proposed a reform so extensive as that which the *English Reform Bill* now makes; and that, even at the time of his coming into power, he said that *he had corrected the errors of his youth*, and, of course, did not mean now to go so far as he had proposed to go many years past; THIRD, that no one will deny, that it was the people who thrust WELLINGTON out of power, on account of his insolent declaration against reform, and that GREY was brought into power because he declared for reform; FOURTH, that though GREY came into power with a promise

to make parliamentary reform, he whiled away the time, from early in November to the first of March, before he brought in the bill; **FIFTH**, that, during the time, he was threatened by the people with all the consequences of their discontent, unless the measure were large and efficient; **SIXTH**, that he found that he had a majority in the House of Commons against the bill, and that he must either quit his place or dissolve the Parliament; **SEVENTH**, that the new Parliament contained a great majority for him, and that the elections clearly proved, that the people were resolved to have a bill as extensive as that which he had brought in; **EIGHTH**, that he now resumed the bill, but that there was no species of delay, no contrivance of procrastination, which was not put in practice to lengthen out the discussions on the bill, which could not have had for their object any other than a desire to weary out the interest which the people took in the measure, and to give the enemies of the bill time to prepare the way for its rejection, and to cause a tranquil submission to that rejection; **NINTH**, that, when the bill had been rejected by the Lords in October last, the Ministry in general, and GREY in particular, gave every symptom of anger, of furious anger, not against the lords who had rejected the bill, but against the people who had resented that rejection; and, though I dare not speak in suitable terms of the transactions at BRISTOL and at NOTTINGHAM; though I dare not, at present, say what I think, of those transactions, any more than of the previous *special commissions* in the south and in the west, issued for the trial of those who had in reality, been the cause of the bringing in of the first bill, there is no man who will not compare these transactions with the excessive indulgence of the Whig Ministry towards all the notorious enemies of reform, and who will not draw his conclusions accordingly; **TENTH**, that, in short, the anger of GREY towards those who were most zealous in the cause of reform was apparent all the way through; and, I might, if I would, produce the prosecution of myself, as

indubitable proof of this anger, and of the fact that the Ministry brought in the Reform Bill in consequence of popular compulsion, and that they wished to see it defeated, provided that they could keep their places; **ELEVENTH**, that when the bill came a second time before the Lords, there had been a negotiation going on between GREY on the one side, and HARROWBY and WHARNCLIFFE on the other side, and that the second reading was carried merely in consequence of that negotiation; **TWELFTH**, that it was manifest from the speech of GREY, and from the conduct of certain persons belonging to the BIRMINGHAM UNION, that Grey and his colleagues meant to slip the bill through the House of Lords, altering the ten-pound clause, and taking from the working people all chance of having any influence at elections; **THIRTEENTH**, that this intention having been detected and exposed by me, Grey resolved to adhere to the ten-pound clause, but not until the country had showed its determination not to suffer the qualification to be raised; **FOURTEENTH**, that the Tories, finding that GREY had taken this determination, resolved to take the bill out of his hands, and accordingly made the memorable motion by LYNDEHURST, on the 7th of May, which led to the turning out and taking in, and the taking in and turning out again, which took place, in consequence of the threat to pay no taxes, and of the run upon the Bank.

If you look at the conduct of the Whigs, from the day of their being forced into place again by the people to the present day; if you look at their daring attempt to make a rotten borough of all Ireland; if you look at their silence upon the subject of the Septennial Bill, while they are introducing a qualification clause into the Scotch Reform Bill; if you look at their conduct with regard to the borough of HUDDERSFIELD, the representation of which they have, in spite of the reasonable and most earnest request of the people, made almost the absolute property of one man, and that man a notorious Whig; if you look at

the two bills which they have now before them, and against which they say not one single word, the one for repealing, in part, the Act of Settlement, and which, if passed, would fill the House of Commons with placemen and pensioners, in spite of all that the people could do to prevent it; and the other, brought in by INGLIS, and intended to render the qualification of members more difficult in England: if you look at all these things, and observe how directly all these bills are in the teeth of the 73d clause of the Reform Bill itself; if you look at these things, it is impossible for you to believe that this greedy faction are not now at work, endeavouring to undermine the very bill which they have brought in and passed.

But their conduct with regard to PLEDGES is the clearest proof of their intention. And here I must enter into a history of those pledges which have been put forth by *the electors of London*; and against which pledges this faction have put in motion all the swarms of dirty tools that they have at their command; and, swarms more numerous and tools more dirty have seldom been seen in this wicked world. We all know that the Reform Bill was carried in consequence of *pledges*: we all know that Mr. WARD was turned out of the representation of the city, because he refused to take the *pledges*: we all know that Mr. THOMPSON was called upon to *resign*, because he had in one instance not attended to the *instructions* of his constituents. Now, bearing these things in mind please to attend to the following history of the CITY PLEDGES.

There was, previous to the passing of the Reform Bill, a COMMITTEE OF THE LIVERY, formed for the purpose of watching over the circumstances connected with the passing of that bill. The bill having been *passed*, the business of this committee was at an end; but, it was thought necessary, for this committee, before it dissolved itself, to invite the NEW ELECTORS, whom the Reform Bill had created, and to whom it had given a franchise equal to that of the livery; it was thought necessary to

invite these new electors to join the livery, in order to discuss the propriety of framing a set of pledges, to be taken by candidates for the representation of the city, seeing that the principle of demanding *pledges* had been so fully recognised, and so successfully acted upon at the former election.

This invitation brought together a body consisting of liverymen and new electors promiscuously. At the end of a pretty long discussion, it was determined to appoint a *sub-committee*, to draw up a set of *pledges*, and to submit them afterwards to the *general-committee* for their approbation or rejection. The sub-committee, consisting of five liverymen and five new electors, met, and agreed upon certain *pledges* by a majority of *two out of ten*. These *pledges* were submitted to the *general-committee*, who *confirmed* the decision of the sub-committee by a *majority of more than four to one*. In all these cases a Dr. BOWRING, who is, or who recently was, in the pay of the Ministers, was the *strenuous opponent*, first of *exacting any pledges at all*; second, in the sub-committee, and in the general-committee also, he proposed pledges of his own, in opposition to those that were carried; and, my neighbour Mr. SWAIN, who was present at the discussion in the latter case in particular, tells me that BOWRING discovered in his opposition an eagerness and anxiety difficult to be described.

Finally, however, the *pledges* were carried by a majority of more than four to one, as I have before observed; and these pledges were as follows:

RESOLVED, 1st. That for one man to represent another, means that he is to act for that other, and in a manner agreeably to his wishes and instructions.

2nd. That members chosen to be representatives in Parliament ought to do such things as their constituents wish and direct them to do.

3rd. That, therefore, it appears to this meeting, that those to whom the laws now commit the sacred trust of the power of choosing members, who are to represent their non-voting neighbours as well as themselves, ought to be scrupulously careful to choose no man on whom firm reliance cannot be placed, that he will obey the wishes and directions of his constituents.

4th. That, in order to obtain the best poss-



sible ground of such reliance, every candidate ought to give the pledges following; to wit,

That I will neglect nothing in my power to cause, in the very first session, a total abolition of the tithes, a repeal of the assessed taxes, the taxes on malt, hops, and soap; and these having been repealed, I pledge myself to the immediate consideration of a revision of the Corn Bill; and I further pledge myself to do everything within my power to cause the abolition of all sinecures and unmerited pensions, and a repeal of that daring act of usurpation called the Septennial Act: and I will, at all times and in all things, act conformably to the wishes of a majority of my constituents, deliberately expressed; or I will, at their request, resign to them the trust with which they have honoured me.

5th. That we, the electors, of the City of London, pledge ourselves to each other and to our country, that we will give our votes to no man who will not give the above pledges, and that we earnestly recommend to our fellow-electors, in every part of the kingdom, to make, and strictly to adhere to, the same determination.

These *pledges* were published in the newspapers on the 24th of June; and on the 25th, BOWRING (for it is impossible not to believe that it was he) had the following article published in *The Times* and the *Morning Chronicle*. You will perceive that BOWRING here gives an account of the pledges which he proposed, and which he says would have been carried, if there had been time for consideration. Now I beg your attention to all this: I beg you to watch the workings of this tool of the Ministers. Read his *pledges* with care. You will see that they pledge a man to *nothing*. You will see that any Tory, any pensioner, any vile and abominable place-hunter, would take these pledges, or rather these fraudulent professions, without any more scruple than any one of Mr. FEARON'S customers would drink a glass of gin. However, read the whole paper through, and then please to attend to me.

PLEDGES FROM CANDIDATES.

At the meeting of several members of the livery, at which the set of pledges proposed by Mr. Williams was carried, another set of pledges was proposed as an amendment, and lost by a majority of *one only*. As opinion was so nearly divided upon the two sets, and as it is believed by the supporters of the amended set, that it would have been carried had there been the same time allowed for its consideration, we are informed that it will be submitted to the new electors of the city of London, at the

meeting convened this day. The amended pledges are as follow:—

Resolved, That the following resolutions be submitted to the general meeting of the constituency of London, as pledges to be required from the candidates for their representation.

PLEDGES TO BE REQUIRED FROM CANDIDATES.

“That they will make the well-being of the community the great object of their care; that they will labour to obtain cheap food, by the abolition of the corn-laws, and of all the imposts which press with peculiar burdensomeness on the labouring poor—cheap knowledge by the removal of all taxes on its diffusion—cheap justice, by the destruction of all needless charges on its administration—and the best public services at the smallest expense.

“That in the pursuit of these ends they will lend their assistance to abolish all unnecessary, and to reduce all overpaid, official situations for the future; all unmerited pensions—all undeserved recompense—in whatever shape they may be proposed.

“That they will endeavour to obtain the shortening the duration of Parliaments to a period not exceeding three years.

“That they will co-operate for the diffusion of instruction, and the extinction of slavery; and that, in our relations with other countries, they will endeavour to advance the great interests of peace, liberty, and human improvement.

“That their attendance shall be constant, the presence of a member being essential to his usefulness.

“That they will either institute or assist in the institution of, an inquiry into the state of the church, with a view to the removal of the abuses which dishonour it.

“That they will press on a reformed Parliament the urgent necessity of the great topic of national education, as the only real security for the public tranquillity, and the only true foundation of the public happiness.

“That until the duration of Parliament shall be shortened to three years, they will withdraw from the representation whenever an undoubted majority of their constituents shall declare they have forfeited confidence.”

The set proposed by Mr. Williams, it will be recollected, was—“1. The abolition of tithes; 2. A modification of the corn-laws; 3. Repeal of the Assessed Taxes; and 4. A repeal of the Septennial Act. It is contended by the supporters of the amended act, that those of Mr. Williams are *too narrow* and that the first and third are erroneously put.—*Morning Chronicle*,”

This publication was followed by a commendatory commentary by BOWRING, on his own propositions, and in a strain as stupid and as confused as the propositions themselves. I take this

paper from the *Morning Chronicle*, in which it was placed very conspicuously, and with a manifest design to mislead the public. On the 28th came, however, the following letter from Mr. WILLIAMS himself, which, when I have inserted it, will leave you very much divided in your opinion, whether Dr. BOWRING be greater fool or political mounteback. Here follows a letter, and a more complete exposure than it makes never was made in this world.

To the Editor of The Times.

Sir,—My name having, in an article entitled "Pledges to Candidates," been introduced into your paper of yesterday, and in a manner tending to produce, especially amongst my brother liverymen and electors of London, an erroneous view of my conduct, and an impression injurious to my character as a reformer, I make no doubt that you will afford me an opportunity of placing the matter before the public in its true light.

In the above-mentioned article you have published two sets of pledges,—one set is that which was proposed to the meeting in question by Dr. BOWRING, and the other is what I am represented as having proposed. With regard to the former, it should be known that there were two meetings before whom the matter was brought: one that of a sub-committee, and the other that of the general-committee; that in the former, Dr. Bowring's set was rejected by a majority of *two out of ten*; but that in the general-committee the Doctor's set was rejected by a majority of more than *four to one*; which circumstance is in this article wholly kept out of sight. It should also be known that the Doctor, having been defeated in the sub-committee, came before the general-committee with an amended set, into which he introduced, as one of the objects to be obtained, "*the abolition of tithes*;" which, from the set published by you, the author has *carefully withdrawn*, leaving the resolution relative to the church such as all the bishops, deans and chapters, and pluralists, in the kingdom, would agree to without a single dissenting voice.

But it is of the gross misstatement with regard to the set proposed by me of which I most loudly complain. The article above-mentioned states that I proposed,—1st, the abolition of tithes; 2d, a modification of the corn-laws; 3d, a repeal of the assessed taxes; 4th, a repeal of the Septennial Act; and then the article observes that these were deemed "*too narrow*." The *truth*, however, as recorded in your paper of the day before, is this,—that my set pledged the candidate to these things,—1st, an abolition of tithes; 2d, a repeal of the assessed taxes; 3d, a repeal of the malt and soap tax; 4th, a revision of the corn bill; 5th, an abolition of all sinecures and unme-

rited pensions; 6th, a repeal of the Septennial Act; 7th, to act agreeably to the wishes and instructions of a majority of his constituents, or to resign his seat at their request.

I will not trouble you with any comparison between my propositions, and the vague set put forward at the same time, which leaves to the candidate means of evasion and subterfuge without end. The decision on them I gladly leave to the meeting of all the electors of the city, which, by consent of the Lord Mayor, is to be held in Guildhall, as soon as possible after the dinner to the Ministers shall have taken place, the time for holding which meeting will be duly announced. But permit me just to add an expression of my opinion, that the meeting being, upon this occasion, held in that hall, will show that the Livery admit ungrudgingly the new electors to a participation in their rights, and will thereby greatly tend to promote, amongst all classes in the city, that harmony and good neighbourhood which is essential to its character as well as to its peace, and which is, in the way of example, eminently calculated to produce the most beneficial effects upon the conduct of electors in every part of the kingdom. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

Watling-street, June 26.

Like Mr. WILLIAMS, I will not trouble you with any comparison between his set of pledges and that of Dr. BOWRING; Mr. WILLIAMS's being distinct, and something that a man cannot shuffle out of; and the Doctor's offering to a crafty candidate as many ways of getting out of his promises, as a rat has holes of escape from a granary or a barn, or a *Greek bondholder* ever had to get out of the danger arising from an indiscreet contract: I will not trouble you with any commentary on the Doctor's equivocal stuff. But here are questions of fact; and, as the smooth-tongued Doctor BLACK gives us such wearisome chapters on WELLINGTON's "*public immorality*," let us see a little into the *veracity* of his friend and brother tax-hunter, Dr. BOWRING. Here, in the Doctor's article, there are, if Mr. WILLIAMS speak truth, two *direct falsehoods*, and one indirect falsehood by suppression of truth. BOWRING says that his propositions were lost by only a majority of *one*; Mr. WILLIAMS says that it was a majority of *two out of ten*. BOWRING says that these *were* the propositions of Mr. WILLIAMS; Mr. WILLIAMS asserts that they *were not*; and

we know that they were not, because Mr. Williams's propositions had been published before; and Dr. BLACK *knew that they were not*, for he himself had published Mr. WILLIAMS's propositions the day before! But these two falsehoods, though direct and clear, are nothing compared to BOWRING's grand falsehood, namely, his suppression, in this publication, of the fact that he himself proposed an ABOLITION OF TITHES! You see, by looking at the second paragraph of Mr. WILLIAMS's letter, that BOWRING, having been *defeated before the sub-committee*, came before the general committee with an *amended* set of pledges, into which he introduced *the abolition of tithes*. But, and I beg you to observe it, in this set of pledges which he *publishes*, he *again leaves out the abolition of tithes*! If that be not political cheater, pray tell me, Dr. BARING, what political cheater is. The truth is, that he has consulted his masters and received their orders, since he laid the proposition before the general-committee, and now he finds that he dares not propose the *abolition of tithes*. It is said that he had a parcel of public money given to him some time ago, to go to *Paris to learn the best mode of keeping public accounts*; and now he has been sent into the city to teach us how to demand pledges which would be like a net to catch sprats, through which a salmon would go without touching a fin.

So much of Dr. BOWRING; let us now come to his fellow-labourers, the city place-hunters. They know that these *pledges* are death to them, as completely as salt is to the thieving root of a thistle, or to the devouring jaws of the snail. They know this; and they are in a state of alarm as great as that of a band of pickpockets when a constable rushes suddenly in and catches them dividing the spoil. It will be perceived that BOWRING talks about a meeting (in his article above quoted, which is dated on the 25th of June) to be held in the city on that day. There was one held, but it consisted of a little bunch of tax-hunters, who *had* belonged to the "Livery of London Reform

Committee." *That* committee was now at an end; but this little group revived it in name, for the purpose of sending forth a disavowal of Mr. WILLIAMS's *pledges*. To this end, they put forth, on the 26th of June, the following paragraph, which appeared in all the newspapers, *paid for by us, the oppressed citizens of London!*

LIVERY OF LONDON REFORM COMMITTEE. —At the *final meeting* of the Livery of London Reform Committee, held yesterday morning at Guildhall, Mr. Fearon in the chair, previous to delivering in their report, and surrendering their trust to the general body in common hall assembled, the following resolution was agreed to, moved by Mr. Taylor, and seconded by Mr. Hall,—“That certain *resolutions* having been published, which *might appear to come from the committee of the livery* appointed at the last common hall, *proposing tests to candidates* for the representation of this city, this committee *thinks it right to record that such resolutions did not emanate from this committee.*”

Oh, no! nobody that knows them will believe that TAYLOR and HALL, two common-councilmen, and that FEARON, the “slippery young man” (as my servant in *Long Island* called him), who so infamously misrepresented me and my neighbours, in order to curry favour with the Government here; nobody that knows them would have suspected that they approved of Mr. WILLIAMS's *pledges*; and for my part I should every bit as soon suspect them of robbing the city exchequer.

Oh, no! Mr. WILLIAMS's *pledges* are present death to all this tribe; present death to the guttlers, who take from us twenty pounds a piece for their own guttling and guzzling, while they vote a few pence a piece for the freemen from whom they take the money. They well know that the men who would take these pledges would never suffer them to have another guttle at the expense of the people, with whose well-being they are charged, whose rights they set at nought, and whom they treat worse than any set of men are treated in the whole country. They are, as Mr. NICHOLSON told them the other day, precisely in the situation that the boroughmongers were in six weeks ago, and their fall will be greater than that

of the boroughmongers has been, because their usurpations on our rights have been more daring, their oppression more cruel, and their insolence more outrageous.

I perceive by Mr. WILLIAMS's letter that the Lord Mayor has given his consent to hold the *general united meeting of the Livery and the new electors* in the Guildhall. That will be a memorable day: on that day sentence will be passed upon the tyranny, under which the people of PORTOKEN-WARD are groaning. It will be the day of the emancipation of us all in this city; on that day we shall see the figure that Dr. BOWRING will make, though with printer TAYLOR and hatter HALL and gin-spinner FEARON, at his back. BOWRING is a liveryman of London merely by purchase; he has neither business nor residence in London; and if he were resident seven miles from the city, the law would stop his tongue, and bid it not to meddle with our matters. However, we shall see the figure that he will make before the united Livery and electors. In the meanwhile, if BOWRING and BLACK be disposed for betting, I will bet them twenty sovereigns, that every candidate for the city will either *take the pledges* of Mr. WILLIAMS, or *lose his election*! The pledges do not go so far as I would go; but since they contain that *substantive pledge, the abolition of tithes*, I will be content with them: knowing well, that if that pledge be faithfully adhered to by only fifty men in the new Parliament, every thing good will follow; and that, if that pledge be not taken, and adhered to, no good will come. Of the other workings of the Whigs I have not time to speak in this letter; but I do beseech my readers to look at their bills that they have coming forward about the QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS. I do beseech my readers to look at their various tricks; and if they do look at them they will perceive that the imaginations of the tricksters are absolutely upon the rack, to find out something or another that may operate in a way to *shut me out of Parliament*! What every one believes must be true,

and there is not a single man in the kingdom that does not believe this.

"Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike."

Did you never see a cat lying curled up in such a way as for the magpies not to know whether she was alive or dead? Did you never see them hopping round about her, now and then approaching, now and then recoiling, now seeming bold, now seeming in a fright; and constantly squalling out their *mac, mac, mac, mac*? If you have ever seen this, though when in your petticoats, it will now rush back into your mind. I hate to see people so anxious about anything, and especially if I myself be the subject of the anxiety: and, as *pledges* are the fashion, I hereby pledge myself most solemnly, that if they will pass a bill to shut me by name out of Parliament for life, they shall never hear from me either by PETITION or COMPLAINT. I will leave the law to take its free course, and to be received as it ought to be, and to produce the effects which it ought to produce; and I apprise them at the same time, that unless they do this, they will not keep me out of Parliament; and that if they do not keep me out of Parliament, the system of taxation and of tithing will be shaken to its very foundation.

I thought, some weeks ago, of pointing out by name, such men as I knew to be fit to make good members of Parliament. Upon reflection I have come to the decision, that to do that would savour of presumption. The more advisable way is for me to make a general OFFER OF MYSELF. There are many thousands and hundreds of thousands of men who think, that if I be not elected, the reform will be productive of little or no good; and, I myself am convinced, that if I be not elected, the affairs of the country will not be peaceably settled. Whatever body of electors shall be of the same opinion may elect me, without any risk of prejudice to the public cause. If I be elected for MANCHESTER, for MANCHESTER I will sit; because from MANCHESTER I received the first application for the purpose; but nothing but good can arise from my being also elected for

other places; because, besides the security which that gives to my return, there will be a positive benefit in a second election, which will give time for reflection and inquiry; while to be elected for three or four places, would give great weight to every effort that I should make. In perfect sincerity I repeat, that, as far as concerns my own personal taste and interests, I shall undertake this arduous task with reluctance. By Michaelmas next I shall have *a farm*; and somewhere in my own native county. **A FARMER I WILL LIVE AND DIE.** But God has been pleased to give me great health and great strength yet: I am convinced that I am able to render the greatest services to my country; that country has a right to those services at my hands; and the more perilous her state, the more base it would be in me not to do my utmost to rescue her from her perils.

WM. COBBETT.

P.S. The new borough of the **TOWER HAMLETS** has this day (Thursday, 28th) adopted **THE CITY PLEDGES**, as moved by Mr. WILLIAMS; and they *have hooted Dr. LUSHINGTON out of their borough!* Good! This will do. Let this go on in the *counties*, and the thing is done.

TO THE
PEOPLE OF BOLTON-LE-MOORS.

PRAY wait till next week. I have something to tell you that will make your blood boil, and will put every elector in the nation on his guard.

WM. COBBETT.

London, 28. June, 1832.

DEAD-BODY BILL.

THIS bill, which authorises **THE SALE** of *dead human bodies*, has been *read a second time* in the Lords. I cannot express my opinion of it in a better manner than I have done it in the following petition. I sent this petition to the *Bishop of London*, who sent it me back again with a *letter* of excuse. This letter, with my answer, will be found after the petition.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

The petition of WILLIAM COBBETT, of Kensington, in the county of Middlesex,

Most humbly shows,

That your petitioner perceives, that there is again a bill before your Right Honourable House, which will make it legal to be possessed of dead human bodies, to cut them up, without the sanction of any court of justice, and even to sell and traffic in them, as in the carcasses of the beasts that perish.

That your humble petitioner has too high an opinion of the understanding and of the sincerity of your lordships to believe, that you will not at once perceive and avow that this horrid traffic must necessarily be confined to the bodies of the poor, seeing that those of the rich will never be exposed to any of the causes from which that traffic must arise; and, being of that opinion, he hopes that your lordships will not agree to a bill, which, if it were, unhappily, to become a law, would fill the minds of the poorer part of the people with inextinguishable resentment against those, to respect and reverence whom they have hitherto been cordially disposed.

That it is with inexpressible disgust that your petitioner has heard this horrible bill justified on the score of what its defenders have dared to call *humanity*, pretending that, without allowing a free trade in human bodies, the Legislature has no means of preventing such bodies from being killed for sale; that, in answer to this hypocritical pretence, the poorer part of the people observe, that the law has always found the effectual means of protecting the dead bodies of cattle, sheep, swine, and poultry, of punishing with death the purloiners of those bodies; and that your lordships have, alas! passed laws (which are still in force) for transporting beyond the seas, men having, in the night-time, and in or near a cover, the dead body of a hare, pheasant, or partridge, in their possession.

That the poorer part of the people thus see, that even when these wild and insignificant animals, these mere objects of the sports of the rich, are to be guarded; when new poor-laws, new trespasses, new misdemeanours, new felonies, new treasons, new and more severe modes of imprisonment and punishment, are to be enacted; that, when to

tax, to restrain, or to punish them, is the object, there is no want of power in the Legislature; and that it becomes impotent only when called upon to yield them protection; and your humble petitioner begs to be permitted to assure your lordships, that the people clearly perceive all this, and that the ultimate consequences of that perception, especially if this act, authorising an open traffic in their bodies, were to become a law, must of necessity be such as your lordships, above all men, would have reason most bitterly to deplore.

That, with regard to the assertion, that this horrible profanation of the tomb is necessary to the perfection of surgical and medical science, while your humble petitioner firmly believes the contrary to be the fact, and is fully warranted in that belief, not only by the experience of all former ages, but by the declarations of the most eminent surgeons and physicians of our own day; while he is convinced that ignorance, and not science, is promoted and kept in countenance by this cutting up of human bodies; while it is his firm conviction, that this butcher-like practice does not at all tend to the preservation of human life, he hopes that your lordships, and more especially the lords spiritual, will see, even in the affirmative of that proposition, no justification of the proposed measure, and he confidently trusts that the Most Reverend and Right Reverend members of your Right Honourable House will never give their assent to a bill, which has a direct and manifest tendency to root from the minds of men those religious opinions, which make a distinction between the future state of human beings and that of brutes, and which opinions can never long continue to exist after the sanction of your lordships shall have been given to this brutalizing bill.

That all nations, even the most barbarous, have shown respect for the remains of the dead; that the Holy Scriptures invariably speak of the rites of burial as being honourable, and of the refusal of those rites as an infamous punishment and signal disgrace; that in the 15th chap. of Genesis, 15th verse, it is recorded, that amongst the gracious promises that God made to ABRAHAM, on account of his faith, one was that he should be *buried* in a good old age: that DAVID (2 Samuel, chap. ii.), when the men of Jabesh-Gilead had

buried Saul, blessed them for their kindness, and said the Lord would reward them; that the Psalmist, in describing the desolation of Jerusalem by the hands of the heathen, says that these latter had given the dead bodies of the Israelites to be meat unto the fowls of the heavens, that they shed their blood like water, and that there was *none to bury them*, which, he adds, has made the Israelites a reproach to the other nations; that in ECCLESIASTES, chap. vi., verse 3, it is said, that if a man have ever so prosperous and long a life, if he have *no burial* he had better never have been born; that we find by EZEKIEL, chap. xxxix., that even enemies were to be *buried*, and that if a human bone was found above ground, it was to be deemed a duty to inter it; that the prophet ISAIAH, chap. xiv., says that the King of Babylon shall be kept out of the grave, like an abominable branch, and shall *not be buried*, because he has been a tyrant; that the prophet JEREMIAH, chap. vii. and viii., at the conclusion of a long and terrible denunciation against the Jews, tells them that they *shall not be gathered nor be buried*, and that they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth; that the same prophet, chap. xiv., says, that the people who listen to false prophets shall die of famine and the sword, and *shall have none to bury them*; that the same prophet, chap. xvi., foretelling the ruin of the Jews, says that they shall die of grief, that they shall not be lamented, *neither shall they be buried*, but shall be as dung upon the face of the earth; that the same prophet, chap. xxii., pronounces judgment on JEHOIAKIM, king of Judah, for covetousness, for shedding innocent blood, for oppression and violence, that he *shall be buried with the burial of an ass*, drawn and cast before the gates of Jerusalem; that in the New Testament, we find that *devout men carried STEPHEN to his burial*; and finally, that by our own burial-service and canons we are taught, that to be buried in consecrated ground is a *right* belonging to every person who has been baptized, who is not, at the hour of death, excommunicated, and who has not killed him or herself.

That seeing that such is the language of Holy Writ, your humble petitioner has waited until now, hoping that the bill in question would be zealously and effectually opposed by the clergy of the Established Church; that if human bodies can be legally sold and cut up

into pieces, without any detriment to our faith, our hope, our religious feeling; if no burial-service is at all necessary in these cases; if this be told to the people by this bill, it is manifest, that that same people will not long think that the burial-service can in any case be necessary, and that they will, in a short time look upon all other parts of the church-service as equally useless; because as your petitioner presumes, there is no ground whatever for believing in the sacredness of one rite or ceremony any more than in that of another, and that, of course, if the Burial of the Dead can be dispensed with, so may Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

That, if this sacrilegious bill were to become a law, your humble petitioner would beg leave to ask, what the people must, in future, think of the ceremony of the consecrating of ground; what of any part of the things ordered and enjoined in the Book of Common Prayer; and especially, what of the fees, which have for ages been, and which are still, paid for saying prayers over the bodies of the dead? That, in England and Wales, there are more than ten thousand church benefices with care of souls; that those, who are charged with this care, have hitherto taught us, that that care requires the due performance of the burial service, and justifies the demand of fees for that performance; that it is as well for morals and religion that our bodies be sold and cut up, as that they be buried in consecrated ground with the usual solemnities, or it is not as well; that, if the latter, the intended law is injurious to morals and religion; that, if the former, well may we ask, to what end, for what purpose, we have been enjoined to perform the burial service, and have been compelled to pay burial fees, for so many ages?

That the horror of the poorer sort of people at the practices which are authorised by this bill, and their conviction that they themselves are principally the objects of it, are clearly and strongly evinced in the fact, that they have all over England formed themselves into clubs for the purpose of providing the means of watching the graves of each other and those of their near and dear relations, a fact to their everlasting honour, and showing that amongst them, at any rate, human feelings have not yet been banished from the breast; that, however, your humble petitioner hopes, that

your Right Honourable House, who are their natural guardians, and who have in so many cases been their defence against sordid and unfeeling measures, will now come to their relief and protection; and that, to this end, you will not only reject the brutal bill aforesaid, but that you will be pleased to pass a bill, making it felony in any person whatever to have a dead body in his or her possession, except for the usual purpose of Christian burial, or except the possession be founded on a sentence agreeably to law, passed in a court of justice.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

WM. COBBETT.

Kensington, 23 June, 1832.

This petition I sent to the Bishop on Sunday evening, the 24th June, at his palace at Fulham, not having found him in London on the Saturday. On the Monday, it came back to Kensington; and I got it here late on Monday night. It was accompanied back with the following letter.

Fulham

25 June 1832

SIR,

If any other Member of the House of Lords can be found, who will present your Petition, I would rather that it should not pass through my hands, for this reason amongst others, because it contains an assertion, that there is no ground whatever for believing in the sacredness of one rite or ceremony any more than in that of another.

This assertion, as well as some other arguments in the Petition I could hardly pass over without notice, and therefore it will be more properly entrusted to some other person.

I remain,

Sir,

Your obedient Servt
C. J. London

W. Cobbett Esq

To this I sent him the following answer on Wednesday morning; but, as it was to be printed, I sent it him in print. The two letters will serve to illustrate "the invaluable right of petition."

Bolt-court, 25th June, 1832.

BISHOP OF LONDON,

I HAVE always understood petitioning to be a right, and I know that the *Bill of Rights* says, that every Englishman

has a *right* to petition the King, or either House of Parliament; but if I am not permitted to go and present my petition myself, and if any member of the House of Lords to whom I apply may refuse to present it for me, my *right* seems to be of a very slender nature: it amounts, indeed, to nothing more than this; that I have a *right* to request a peer to suffer me to petition the House of Lords, and that he has a right to refuse me, as you have now done; for to tell me that you will do it (and you do not go so far as that) if no "other member can be found to do it," is, in fact, to tell me, that I must first *find* and try *all* the other members; long before I could possibly do which, the bill against which I wish to petition, may be passed, and dozens of the bodies of my poorer neighbours may be openly sold, and chopped up like those of dogs.

The objection founded on your *disagreement* with me, and on the necessity of your *noticing* that disagreement, is answered at once by the fact, that I did not request you to support the prayer of my petition; it was my petition, not yours: I did not petition because you *were* of my opinion, but precisely because (from your not having opposed the bill) I thought you *were not*. If you had done what I looked upon as your duty, I should not have thought it necessary to present any petition on the subject. Besides, if you disagree with the petition, you will, of course, express your disagreement, whether you present it or not; so that it is impossible to believe that it is not your real object to prevent the petition from being presented at all.

With regard to the "*assertion*" of which you speak, it is no *assertion*, but merely an *opinion* stated; and as to the "*other*" of my arguments to which you object, it is impossible to guess at what they are, seeing that this word "*other*" has reference to nothing; no arguments having been before alluded to by you. Still, however, had I made use of false assertions and fallacious arguments, that would have been no reason for your refusing to present my petition, for, if it

were such, the "*great right of petition*" would come to this at last: that no petition is to be presented unless it accord with the opinions of some one at least of the persons to whom it is intended to be presented.

As to the relative sacredness of different rites and ceremonies, I am not doctor of divinity enough scrupulously to settle that matter; but, these things I know, 1. That we have been taught to regard them *all* as sacred; 2. That, according to the Prayer Book, which we have been taught to read with great reverence, to have *Christian burial* withheld from a dead person is *deemed a punishment* inflicted on that person's remains; 3. That church-yards are *consecrated*, and that to *brawl*, or *commit assaults*, in them is punishable (on account of their *sacredness*) in a spiritual court, and with a severity much greater than if the offences were committed on ground *not consecrated*; 4. That *burial fees* are a most burdensome tax upon the people, amounting, in each of several parishes in your diocese, to more than a thousand pounds a year; 5. That when burial places are consecrated, the *people pay* for the act of consecrating.]

Therefore, leaving out of view the manifest partiality of the bill, and its barbarous and brutalizing tendency, what can be the *use* of all this work of *consecrating*, if it be *just as good* for our souls that dead bodies should become objects of sale, and be cut up like the bodies of cattle, as that they should have Christian burial? And, above all things, where, in the former case, is the *justice* in compelling the living to *pay* for prayers and psalms said and sung over the bodies of the dead? These were the questions for *you* to answer; and this is precisely what you have left undone. Not having done this, nor attempted to do it, your letter contains nothing but a mere pretence for not presenting my petition, which, however, you will, I believe, soon find presented by somebody else; and then you will, doubtless, show the falsehood of what you call my assertion, and the unsoundness of my arguments.

As matter of curiosity merely, I will

add, that the very "assertion," word for word, to which you *now object*, was contained in my petition, against the Dead-Body Bill of 1829; and that you, as your duty prescribed, *presented that petition without any objection at all!* So that, if you be right now, you were wrong then; a fact undeniable, and one that ought to make you a more modest critic for the future; one that ought to make you doubt whether the possession of twenty thousand pounds a year and a couple of palaces really authorise a man to refuse to present a petition, most respectfully worded, and praying for what is within the constitutional competence of the House of which he is a member.

To subscribe yourself my *obedient servant*, while you contradict my assertions, and refuse to attend to my request, is a sort of inconsistency which shall not have an imitation in the conduct of

WM. COBBETT.

P.S. The petition was presented by Lord RADNOR, last night (28th of June), and I do not perceive that you said a word about it.

W. C.

CHOPSTICK FESTIVAL.

THE POLITICAL UNION OF COVENTRY, a THOUSAND of whom dined under a *tent*, on Tuesday, the 26th instant, to celebrate the fall of the villanous boroughmongers, have very kindly *offered their capacious tent* for our festival at SUTTON SCOTNEY; and Mr. T. W. GILL, of that city, has generously offered to send it to London *carriage-free*. I need not say that I have accepted of it; and therefore that puts an end to all trouble *about a covering*. *Knives and forks* will be the most difficult things to provide. Each man must bring his own, I believe; but this must be arranged, some how or other, by the person who will go down beforehand to prepare matters. Mr. ALDERMAN SCALES gives us a fat sheep, and Mr. SPSFORD two bushels of *fine corn-flour*, to make plum-puddings; and Mr. BARRITT, of Fetter-lane, a *box of plums*. As to *vegetables*, they are of little use and

give great trouble; and not an *accursed potato* shall come near the place! They have done quite mischief enough already. I shall set off from London so as to be at Sutton Scotney on the 6th of July. Perhaps I shall set off that same morning. If any gentleman have a mind to go with me from London, we must make our arrangements on *Tuesday*, the 3d of July; for *which purpose*, I will be at BOLT-COURT *all* that day, from five o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock at night. Six or seven of us might go very well with a carriage and four horses. SUTTON SCOTNEY is fifty-five miles from London, through BASINGSTOKE, through POPHAM LANE, and is on the turnpike road, about half-way between the last-mentioned place and STOCKBRIDGE. Many coaches go through it from London to SALISBURY, and on to EXETER. But many of these go through ANDOVER; and, therefore, that must be attended to. I have just learned that Mr. BUDD, of BURGHCLERE, means to meet us with two geese, a small sucking porker, a bushel of bread, and some veal pies: and that he intends to go in his waggon, and load it with passengers as he goes along. Mr. SWAIN, of Fleet-street, has sent me a GUINEA to be laid out in *strong beer* for the CHOPSTICKS.

GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

AT last! Never will I undertake a job like this again! To give a full description of this result of prodigious labour, is due to my readers as well as to myself; I want to sell my book, and they *all* ought to have the useful information that it contains. I shall, therefore, first give the TITLE, and then the EXPLANATORY PREFACE, from which every one will see what are the uses of this book.

[Owing to the POLLING-PLACES of Herefordshire having been omitted in the Boundary Bill until it was last amended, several sheets of the book were kept back until to-day, which will prevent the publication taking place until SATURDAY, 7. JULY.]

A GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF ENGLAND AND WALES;

CONTAINING

The names, in Alphabetical Order, of all the Counties, with their several Subdivisions into Hundreds, Lathes, Rapes, Wapentakes, Wards, or Divisions; and an Account of the Distribution of the Counties into Circuits, Dioceses, and Parliamentary Divisions.

ALSO,

The names (under that of each County respectively), in Alphabetical Order, of all the Cities, Boroughs, Market Towns, Villages, Hamlets, and Tithings, with the Distance of each from London, or from the nearest Market Town, and with the Population, and other interesting particulars relating to each; besides which there are

MAPS;

First, one of the whole country, showing the local situation of the Counties relatively to each other; and, then, each County is also preceded by a Map, showing, in the same manner, the local situation of the Cities, Boroughs, and Market Towns.

FOUR TABLES

Are added; first, a Statistical Table of all the Counties, and then three Tables, showing the new Divisions and Distributions enacted by the Reform-Law of 4th June, 1832.

EXPLANATORY PREFACE.

THAT space and time, which, in prefaces, are usually employed in setting forth the objects and the utility of the work, I shall here employ in describing the contents of this work, and in explaining certain parts of it, which, I think, may stand in need of explanation; in doing which, I shall proceed in the order in which the matters lie before me.

I. The book begins with a **GENERAL ACCOUNT** of England and Wales; **FIRST**, stating the geographical situation, the boundaries, the extent, and the population of the whole country; **SECOND**, showing how the country is divided into **COUNTIES**, and into their subdivisions, this part being accompanied with a *map*, showing how the counties are locally

situated relatively to each other; **THIRD**, showing how the counties are distributed into **CIRCUITS**, and pointing out the assize-towns in the several circuits; **FOURTH**, showing how the counties, or parts of counties, are distributed into **DIOCESSES**; and, **FIFTH**, showing how the counties are now divided for **PARLIAMENTARY PURPOSES**.

II. After this comes an **INDEX TO THE DICTIONARY**, containing the names, in alphabetical order, of the *cities, boroughs, market-towns, villages, hamlets, and tithings*, in all the counties, and having, against the name of each, the name of *the county*, under which the particulars relating to each place will be found.

III. **THE DICTIONARY**. Here the *English counties*, in alphabetical order, come first; and then the *Welsh counties*, in the same order. Then, under each county, come the names of all the cities, boroughs, market-towns, villages, hamlets and tithings in that county. Immediately preceding the name of each county there is a map, describing the boundaries of the county, and pointing out the local situation of its cities, boroughs, and market towns. Under the name of each county there is an account of its soil, extent, products, population, rental, poor-rates, and of all other the interesting particulars belonging to it; under the name of each city and other principal place, there is a history of it as far as regards matters of general interest or of great curiosity; and, wherever there was formerly a *monastic establishment*, the nature and value of it are mentioned under the name of the place, whether that place be a city or hamlet. The *distance from London* is stated, in the case of cities, boroughs, and market-towns. And, in the case of the villages, hamlets, and tithings, their distances, and also their bearings, from the *nearest city, borough, or market-town*, are stated; and in all cases the population is stated. In places where there are *markets* or *fairs*, the days for holding them are stated, and mention is made of the commodities dealt in at the fairs. With regard to localities, it is not the great and well-known places, but the small and obscure

places, of which we want a knowledge. How many scores of places have I received letters from, and there being no post-mark, or it being illegible, and it not being named in the date of the letter, have been unable to send an answer with any chance of its reaching its destination! Of how many places do we daily read in the newspapers, and in pamphlets and books, of which places we never before heard, of the local situation of which we know nothing; and yet, with regard to which, we, for some reason or other, wish to possess a knowledge! It was from the great and almost constant inconvenience, which I experienced as to this matter, that induced me to undertake this most laborious work. For instance, if we were to read or hear something of a transaction at *Tilford*, how are we to know where *TILFORD* is, and what sort of a place it is? We might, from some circumstance, learn that it was in the county of *SURREY*; but one should not know whether it were a town or village, or what it was, nor in what part of the county it lay. My book, in the *Index*, tells us that it is in *SURREY*; in the *Dictionary*, it tells us, that it is a *TITHING*, that it is in the parish of *FARNHAM*, and that *Farnham* is a *MARKET-TOWN*, distant therefrom in a direction, that is, at 39 miles distance from London; and the *county-map* shows us, that this market-town lies at the *WESTERN EXTREMITY OF THE COUNTY*. In many cases it was unnecessary to state the distances of *hamlets* and *tithings* from any other place; but in all such cases the *parish* (being city, borough, town, or village) is made known; which makes our knowledge on the subject quite minute enough. For instance, in the county of *SURREY*, *Bagshot* is a hamlet, the distance of which from *CHERTSEY*, the nearest town, is not stated; but the book tells us, that it is in the village and parish of *WINDLESHAM*, and that that village is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from *CHERTSEY*; so that here is nothing wanting. There now remain to be explained some things; which, if left unexplained, might lead to error. **FIRST**, under the name, in the Diction-

ary, of each county, is given the *number of parishes* it contains. This frequently leaves out *townships*, a great many of which have separate parochial jurisdiction; but it was impossible, in all cases, to come at a correct knowledge of the facts relating to this matter; and, therefore, the *parishes*, so called, have, in the statistical table as well as in the *Dictionary*, generally been taken as they stood in the official returns to Parliament. **SECOND**, as the *Dictionary* part was compiled before the *Reform-law* was passed, the *number of members of Parliament* returned by the several counties, cities, and boroughs, stands in this part of the book, according to the rotten-borough system; but this matter is amply set to rights in the tables, which are at the close of the book, and which it is now my business to describe.

IX. Next after the *Dictionary* comes a *STATISTICAL TABLE* (which is called No. I.); which states, against the name of each county in England, and against that of the whole of Wales, the following pieces of information; namely, its square miles, its acres of land; its number of parishes; number of market-towns; number of members of Parliament according to the *new-law*; number of former monastic establishments; number of public charities; number of parishes which have no churches; number of parishes the population of each of which is under a hundred persons; number of parishes which have no parsonage-houses; number of parishes in which the parsonage-houses are unfit to live in; annual amount of the county poor-rates according to return of 1818, that being the last presented; number of paupers at that time; the annual rental of the county at the same time, no return having since been made; total population of the county according to return of 1821; number of houses in the county, in 1821, no return on that subject having been made since; the proportion between the poor-rates and the rental of the county; the proportion between the number of paupers and the number of houses in the county; the county poor-rates in 1776, by way

of comparison ; the number of persons to each square mile in the county ; the number of acres of land to each person in the county ; the number of acres of land to each house in the county ; the whole of the male population in 1821, no distinction, in this respect, having been made in the last return ; number of agricultural families, handicraft families, and other families, all according to the return of 1821, no information of this sort being given in the last return ; number of agricultural males in the county ; number of able labourers ; number of acres of land in the county to each of its able labourers ! In a table like this, containing such a mass of figures, it was next to impossible to avoid, either in author or printer, something in the way of *error*, and *one*, and I believe only one, has been committed here ; and that is, in the statement of the number of acres of land to each person and to each house in the county of Middlesex. As I firmly believe, that a fiftieth part as much really useful information was never before given in so small a compass ; so am I quite sure, that a hundredth part as much was never before published at a similar price. This Table, the whole of which the reader sees at *two openings* of the book, has cost me, first and last, months of labour.

V. In TABLE No. II. we come to the new and important PARLIAMENTARY DIVISIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS. This Table again ranges the counties in their alphabetical order, and shows, at one view, the distribution of the country for the purposes connected with the election of members to serve in parliament (according to the act of 1832) ; naming the counties, describing the divisions (where there are divisions) in the counties, stating the places for holding the election courts, stating the polling places in each county or division of a county, naming the cities and boroughs in the county returning members to Parliament, and stating the number of members for each county, each division of the county, and each city and borough ; and, finally, the whole number of members returned by each county.

VI. But as the *cities* and *boroughs* are, in the Table No. II, not accompanied by a statement of their population, TABLE No. III. gives them with their population in their new boundaries ; and also the counties of England with their present population, separate from that of the cities and boroughs ; and then the total population of each county, and the total number of members that each county is to return. WALES, for want of any return relative to it respecting these matters is given (as to its population) in this Table without the distinctions just mentioned.

VII. In order that no part of this most interesting and most memorable change, made by the Reform-law, may be left without information relative to it, and that information may be always at hand, Table No. IV. gives the names of all the rotten boroughs wholly cashiered, and also of those half-cashiered, by the Act of 4. June, 1832, together with the counties in which they are, and the number of voters which they formerly had, this being matter which never ought to be effaced from the minds of Englishmen.

Such is the book that I now present to my readers ; and if it prove tiresome to them, I beseech them to think of what it must have been to its author ! It has done one thing for me, at any rate : it has at last taught me, at the end of three-score years of labour, that there is *something that can fatigue*, and it is a truly curious fact that I am putting this on paper in the VERY ROOM in which Dr. JOHNSON wrote his plaintive preface to the prodigious production of his patient toil.

WM. COBBETT.

No. 11, Bolt-court, 28 June, 1832.

With 43 copper-plate maps, and all these enormously-expensive tables, I shall sell this book for 12s. bound in boards. If I were to reckon the labour at the rate that a journeyman carpenter is paid, I should lose about three hundred pounds by this first edition ; so that if the THING had not been kind enough to take my thousand pounds away from me, and to keep it for me, at interest, for

twenty years past, as it has done, I might, in my old age, actually have come under the guardianship of one of STURGES BOURNE's *hired overseers*, and might have been put up to auction; or I might have been *sheared*, as the two girls at Ninfield, in Sussex, were.

TO THE

PEOPLE OF NEW YORK,

And those in all other parts of the United States, and in Canada.

London, 26th June, 1832.

You, particularly if you be Englishmen, must want very much to know what we are doing in this nice little bustling country; and it is of importance to us that you should know it too. From these infamously false newspapers you can never learn *any truth*; and I am resolved, that you shall have it in *the Register*, which will now be published in NEW YORK regularly, at the place which will be mentioned at the bottom of this address; where will also be stated the price at which the *Register* will be sold.

I have, this day, shipped *an assortment of all my books*, in order to the opening of a STORE (by us called a SHOP) at NEW YORK, in *my own name*, for the sale of my *Register*, my *Books*, and *GARDEN SEEDS*, of which I am the grower, this year, for the first time, on a considerable scale; and in the doing of which I, in point of care, challenge all England. I grow finer vegetables than any that I ever saw elsewhere; and I have taken pains indescribable to have my various sorts *true*. I have made preparations for a regular sale of *GARDEN SEEDS* of my shop in London, next autumn; and I shall supply my STORE, at NEW YORK, in the same manner, and from the same source. My correspondent will appoint a proper person to keep the store; all the particulars, relative to which, will be mentioned at the bottom of this address, when it is republished at New York.

The *Register* will be published with greater regularity than it used to be published in London, when I was in LONG ISLAND, whence I dealt the THING so many good blows. My STORE, at

New York, will be a place for ENGLISH EMIGRANTS to obtain information at; and also a channel, through which for persons to communicate with me, or in many cases, with their friends in England. It may be a channel for applications for English and Scotch gardeners, who are always wanted by gentlemen in America, and of whom and most excellent ones too, we have always many who would be glad to go, if recommended by me.

Along with the books that I have shipped are a good variety of those entertaining and instructive teachers, which appeal only to the eyes; I mean *caricatures*, which, though they produce such dismal harangues in the House of Commons, make the people *laugh exceedingly*! They have now kept us in a roar for six weeks, and they are keeping us in that state still; and it is but right that our brethren in the United States should laugh along with us, especially those of them who have been driven away by the THING. These are very *pretty pictures*; and they have done more good in *six weeks* than the toad-eating wretches of the "*Royal Academy*" have been able to do mischief ever since "*the good old King*" set it up. These pictures show things in their *true light*; they fill us with indignation against *fraud and villainy*, with contempt for *imbecile malignity*, and they make us *laugh* till our heads ache at seeing the veil taken off from filthy creatures, whom millions of good people have long been looking on almost with veneration. They are the only *useful pictures* that I ever saw, and I beg the publishers of them to accept of my thanks.

From NEW YORK booksellers may be supplied in other towns; in which case the allowance will be *very liberal*. "*WILLIAM COBBETT'S STORE, NEW YORK*," will be the address. Booksellers and others in CANADA will find the thing very convenient. Many months in the year New York is the only possible channel of communication between Canada and England. By-the-by. I hear of some *PRETTY WORKS* in Upper Canada. *The very moment that*

emigrants land, they are taxed, in Lower Canada, for the relief of poor emigrants! God Almighty, what a thing this is to be called a *government!* But there are *other things* in that country that would make one's hair literally stand on end! Deputies are here everlastingly to get *redress!* Ah! little do they know of this **THING!** They come here; they dance attendance; they get to some members of Parliament "who are *friendly* to them;" and they *amuse them, keep them quiet*; they are got to the *feeds* and the *guzzles*; they are *dazzled*; they are finally *corrupted*; and they go back (if they ever go back) *spies* and *supporters* of the **THING.** This is what I have always *hitherto* seen; whether the poor Canadians will be more lucky in future I do not know. Good garden seeds are very much wanted in Canada; and this is the readiest channel; and, indeed, almost the only channel for *fresh seeds.* They cannot go from England before *December*; and they cannot be sent up the **ST. LAWRENCE** before it be too late for many of them to be of any use; but they can be at New York in *January*, as mine will be; and thence they can go to **CANADA** at any time of the year; and can always be ready for early in the spring.

I beg my friends at Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, and elsewhere, to cause this address to be put into the newspapers; and I make the same request to friends in *Canada*; who, however, for the sake of the printer, will take care to *cut out* a part of the foregoing paragraph; for they make *short work* of "libellers" there: *there* they take their types and presses and throw them into the *lakes* or *rivers*; a very natural and most effectual way of extinguishing *inflammatory* matter.

The publication of the *Register*, at New York, will begin with this very *Register that I am now writing.* My correspondent at New York, will fix on the place for the **STORE** at once; and will announce it at the bottom of this address when he re-publishes it at New York; and he will also publish a catalogue of the books and a statement of their prices.

WM. COBBETT.

REFORM REJOICINGS.

THE guttlers and guzzlers, who agreed unanimously to carry on law to prevent the people of **PORTSMOUTH** ward from having the alderman whom they had elected, have not yet named the time when they are to guttle down three thousand pounds of our money. They find such difficulty in digesting their last feast, I suppose, that their stomachs have not yet recovered their wonted faculties; and whenever they come at us, they wish, doubtless, to come well prepared. However, they are, as the miser complained of his servant in the play, "huge feeders:" God may turn their hearts, as the country people say; but the devil cannot turn stomachs. The former does not seem to be very probable; for they appear to be perfectly callous. There was a curious scene took place at the voting of this three thousand pounds, in our city of London parliament, which, as Mr. **SCALES** truly told them, is infinitely worse than the Parliament at Westminster ever was; for, though this latter guttle and guzzle too under the same roof, and at the very time that they are law-making; and though the greater part of them may pay the score out of their pensions, sinecures, retired-allowances, half-pay, grants, or allowances, they do not *directly vote our money*, in order to pay for their beef-steaks and mutton-chops and grog and brown-stout and ale and porter, which they get at **BELLAMY'S.** The curious scene to which I have alluded was as follows:

At a meeting of the Common Council, which took place on Friday the 8th of June, the sum of three thousand pounds was voted for an *entertainment*, to which Earl Grey, his colleagues, and all the Lords and Commoners, are to be invited who voted for the Reform Bill, and at which *fête* the said Earl Grey and Lord Althorp are to be presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box, value one hundred guineas *each.* After which Charles Pearson moved, and was seconded by Mr. Thornhill, that an additional sum, which is now fixed at three

thousand pounds, should be voted from the corporation funds, to be distributed amongst the freemen residing in the City of London, to commemorate the passing of the Reform Bill; but which said motion was warmly objected to by Mr. *Figgins*, and by Mr. Jones, chairman of the New London Bridge committee, and by Deputy Tickner, on the score that it was an electioneering trick of the movers, Mr. Pearson and by Mr. Walter Peacock, for the reason that the said freemen would feel themselves *pauperised*, by accepting the said *cash* or dinner, if so laid out. Mr. Richard Taylor supported the motion, and was followed by Mr. Death, the new member for Portsoken Ward, who expressed himself astonished that Mr. Jones and Mr. Tickner should attribute any motive to the honourable mover, beyond that of wishing to make all hearts rejoice upon so memorable an occasion, and more particularly as it was only returning, in a very small proportion, the people's own money, which was a very uncommon thing for the corporation to do, to those who stood most in need it, and he must add, it was the *best* act that had emanated from the corporation since he was a *member* of it, and did honour to the head and heart of the mover; but how was he to reconcile Mr. Peacock's expression, namely, that the freemen would consider themselves *pauperised* at such an offer being made them? He would ask the honourable gentleman if any member in that court would feel himself *pauperised* by partaking of the three thousand pounds voted for a dinner an hour before? Would any of the aristocracy that would be invited feel themselves *pauperised* by partaking of the said dinner? Would Earl Grey and Lord Althorp consider themselves *pauperised* by partaking of the said dinner out of the citizens' pockets? And it would be needless to ask if any of the alderman would. And who, he would inquire, of all these were the most deserving to share this bounty? Why, the *people* to be *sure*; was it not the *people* who carried the *Reform Bill*? Were not the Ministers obliged to resign

in consequence of the dilemma they were thrown into? *And did not the King himself* * * *

when victory was in their grasp. Order, order, from the Lord Mayor and several members who rose simultaneously, and vociferated, *Order, order, order*; at the same time Mr. Deputy Brook exclaimed, he never heard such language used in that Court before; and some member observing there was only one Alderman present, the debate must be *suspended*, upon which Charles Pearson *rose* and informed the Lord Mayor he might send out the mace and bring an Alderman into Court if one could be found, but at this moment the *would-be* Alderman, or rather the Alderman's Alderman Hugh Hughes, Esq., and Alderman Cowan, arrived; upon which Mr. Death continued; that reform in manners was wanted in that Court, for he had only spoken the truth of the King and his Ministers; and would not be *put down*. No man was more loyal than he was to the Constitution and to the King, but at the same time no man was more firmly attached to the cause of the *people*, for they were the supporters of all governments, and to the people's firmness we were indebted for the *Reform Bill*—and the Ministers for now being in possession of their *office*, therefore he should with all his heart support the motion. The motion was referred to the General Purpose Committee.

The guttle and guzzle is voted; but, somehow or other the Ministers have no *appetite* for the feast. In almost all the country towns, the people of property have been regaling the working people, or are about to do it, at their own expense. Our law-makers think it more convenient to regale themselves at the working people's expense. CHARLEY'S proposition for giving two thousand five hundred pounds, for to feast *forty thousand* of the working people, while about a hundred and fifty of themselves were devouring three thousand pounds, was like tossing orts down to the dogs and cats, to keep them quiet while the family is at dinner.

CHARLEY, whose taste as to decency and decorum is extremely refined, likes, as all your *sober* men do, a quiet meal, and though a cheerful, yet a tranquil glass after it. Therefore, I suppose it was, that he fell upon this scheme of keeping us quiet and at a distance; seating us in FARRINGDON MARKET-HOUSE, that result of the prince of all jobs, while he, cheek by jowl with his own Lord Mayor, was receiving into his maw the fruits of our earnings, giving us about a clear nine-pence a-piece to feast upon, while he and his worthy colleagues were swallowing fifteen or twenty pounds a-piece of our money. Let him not be too sure; for, though FARRINGDON MARKET is half a mile from GUILDHALL, an *adjournment* from the former might, by some accident or other, very considerably augment the number of guests at the latter; and then, what a commotion there would be amongst the tureens of turtle, and the pyramids of pastry! Why, CHARLEY's hair would stand an end, instead of hanging down in those graceful ringlets which adorn his head as present.

It is impossible to mention FARRINGDON Market without thinking of the proposed job for slaughtering cattle by steam, to which I alluded in my last *Register*, the defeating of which job, and saving us a hundred and fifty thousand pounds, was the great ground of the hostility to Mr. SCALES.

GALLOWAY's premises were to have been taken for the City slaughterhouse, and for the spaces around it, at an expense of *fifty thousand pounds*. The slaughterhouse was to have been in the form of the *Amphitheatre* of TIBERIUS at ROME, and was to have cost eighty thousand pounds. So here were to be expended a hundred and thirty thousand pounds of our money; and then GALLOWAY was to have been the *contractor* to slaughter the cattle *by steam*. There are other jobs, to be mentioned another time, which were upset by Mr. SCALES; and here is the true cause of the implacable enmity to him. They know very well, that there are a hundred things which he would bring to light, if he

were in the Court of Aldermen. There he must be, unless, which is by no means improbable, a Reformed Parliament should think proper to break up this Corporation altogether: we shall be entitled to its protection, to be sure, as well as the rest of his Majesty's subjects. The Parliament will not abandon us, any more than it will abandon any other part of the people. It will hear our petitions, to be sure; it will listen to our crying grievances; it will inquire into what is done with the money that is taken from us: it will look into the why and the wherefore of the immense sums which are squandered away, and have been squandered away, in feasting, in summer excursions, in gold boxes, and in swords set with diamonds. It will inquire by what authority these men have spent our money in this manner; and it will deal with them, to be sure, as the Parliament dealt with the South Sea bubble. In short, this little THING must follow the fate of the great THING: both have been FUNDING long enough: it is now high time to talk of REFUNDING. Above all things, a reformed Parliament will inquire into the affair of PORTSOKE Ward; into that act of matchless oppression, and of daring contempt of all justice. For my own part, I should feel myself covered with everlasting infamy, if I were to sit in a reformed Parliament a month without using the best of my endeavours to cause justice to be done on those who have audaciously deprived the people of PORTSOKE of their rights.

FOX CLUB.

THE *Morning Chronicle*, which is now become the basest of all the slaves of the Whigs, gave an account the other day of a "FOX CLUB," held at Greenwich, above all places in the world; and, which I hope is not true, getting away without being covered all over with mud and other stuff from the kennel. Old DADDY COKE, the sinecure lighthouse-man, was of the party; there were all the Ministers, I believe, and a great parcel of their hangers-on. The impudence of this is quite astonishing. Fox never did one single thing that was

good to the country. He wrote a lying book in defence of the RUSSELL who was beheaded; and nobody but stupid and corrupt Whigs ever read it. There is scarcely a single sub-editor of a newspaper that could not write a book as well. He was a *sinecure placeman* all his life long, from the time that he was in petticoats till the day of his death: and, from the day of that death he has left us his widow (the particulars relating to whom I will not state) to keep for her life, at the rate of twelve hundred pounds a year, and two daughters of hers of the name of WILLOUGHBY, to be kept by us at the rate of twelve hundred after her death, and until the end of their lives, joint or separate. He sucked up about seventy thousand pounds of our money in sinecures, and his WIFE has already sucked up upwards of thirty thousands more! These are pretty grounds whereon to call upon the people to *honour the memory of this man!* The fact is, that this FOX CLUB is revived again, in the hope of again dividing the people into FOXITES and PITITES, and thus to cause them to be cheated by each faction in its turn. I crippled these two factions in 1806 and 1807; especially the base and hollow WHIG faction, which has never forgiven me. It is now making an attempt to revive; but it has a DEBT, and let it pay that. It will never revive; it will plunge the country into any misery, in order to be able still to plunder it; but it will never revive.

COLLINS.

THERE was a great assemblage of magistrates, it seems, at Wokingham, on Tuesday last, in order to examine this man who flung the stone at the King's head. After a long parade of swearings about that which the man had never denied, the prisoner was asked what he had to say in his defence; and he, without the least hesitation said: "I own myself in a great fault for throwing these stones at his Majesty. I was in Greenwich Hospital on the 16th December last, as an in-pensioner. I had been

"there eighteen months. The ward-keeper was sweeping the place, and I told him he had no business to sweep it more than once a day; the boat-swain's mate abused me, and I returned it. A complaint was then made to Sir Richard Keats, and I was *expelled for life*. I petitioned the Lords of the Admiralty to have the pension which I had before I went into the Hospital, restored to me. I am entitled to that pension by an act passed in the reign of George IV. *which entitles a pensioner to have the same pension which he had before he became an in-pensioner, unless he struck an officer, or committed felony*; I did no such thing; on the 19th of last April I petitioned the King to have my pension restored. He answered by sending the petition to the Lords of the Admiralty, and Mr. Barrow, the Secretary, sent a letter to me at the public-house, the Admiral Duncan, with the same answer the King gave. The answer was, that 'His Majesty could do nothing for me.' This was part in writing, and part in print. I had neither work-house nor overseer to apply to, and *had not broke my fast for three days*; merely distress drove me to it. His Majesty never did me an injury, and I am exceedingly sorry I threw a stone or anything else at his Majesty. On the 17th of the present month I went to Admiral Rowley's; he *swore at me and kicked me*. I can only say I am very sorry for what I have done, and *must suffer the law*. They had no right to take my pension from me, to which I was entitled by *act of Parliament*."

I shall make no comment. But it will be curious to see *how this will end!* There is no "special commission" ordered yet. I wonder whether there will be! Let us keep our eye upon this affair.

MILITARY REVIEW.

I TAKE the following from *The Times* newspaper of Thursday, 27th of June.

It having been generally announced that his Majesty intended yesterday to present the

1st, or Grenadier Foot Guards, which have lately arrived from Ireland, with a pair of new colours, at 10 o'clock this fine regiment marched into Hyde Park, and took up their position; shortly after two squadrons of the 14th Light Dragoons, in their new uniform, and four squadrons of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), with a park of artillery of 12 guns, entered upon the ground.

The Artillery took up their position on the right, and the Guards formed themselves in line. The ground was kept by the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), and two squadrons of the 2d Life Guards, with a strong force of the Metropolitan Police. At 9 o'clock a considerable crowd had collected in the park, and by the time the King arrived, this crowd had become a multitude.

At 11 o'clock the Earl of Munster entered Hyde-park by the grand entrance, followed by a servant in state livery, and shortly after six of the Royal carriages (escorted by a body of the Life Guards) drove through. In the first was Prince George of Cambridge; and in the second the officers of his Majesty's household; in the third and fourth were the Duchesses of Kent, Gloucester, and the other branches of the Royal Family; in the fifth was his Majesty; and in the sixth was the Queen.

Their Majesties' reception on this occasion presented a remarkable contrast with that which greeted them on this very spot last summer, when his Majesty reviewed some troops.

When the King and Queen entered the park, the people who had lined both sides of the road, received them in profound silence. As they proceeded on their route, a few of the bystanders here and there took off their hats and cheered, but they never amounted to more than a dozen at any one time. The applause of these persons was sometimes opposed by a hiss from others, but the great mass of the people remained entirely passive. When the Royal train arrived on the ground, they were favourably received by a crowd of gentlemen and ladies, who, having the privilege of *entré*, were allowed to pass within the outer line of soldiers; but this party bestowed their warmest approbation upon the Duke of Wellington, whom they cheered heartily as often as he passed near them in the course of the morning.

When their Majesties alighted within the Park, nearly opposite Stanhope-gate, a royal salute was fired by the artillery, and the band played "God save the King."

The King, accompanied by her Majesty, the royal princesses, the Duke of Wellington, Prince George of Cambridge, and a considerable staff, passed up and down the lines. They then took up their position, and the troops marched by in review order, after which the Guards formed themselves into a square, and her Majesty presented this fine regiment with a new pair of colours, the men presenting arms. The troops then formed again in line,

and marched by in open columns, with their new colours flying and bands playing.

Shortly before two o'clock, their Majesties quitted the ground. The people had by this time assembled in great numbers along the road. His Majesty was received with mingled applause and disapprobation; but the Queen, who was exposed to the public gaze, her carriage having been thrown open since her arrival, was assailed with loud yells. In this way the royal party proceeded through Hyde-park, and down Constitution-hill, where the disapprobation was more unequivocally expressed, and continued, without a single attempt, as far as we could perceive, to turn the current of feeling, until their Majesties entered the gardens of St. James's Palace, amidst a shout of the most discordant sounds.

The *Morning Chronicle*, which is become the basest of all the hacks of Whigs, gives an account of this affair, which is a string of lies from the beginning to the end. My patience with the Doctor is almost exhausted: he has, manifestly, a *place* in his nose: he can see, I dare say, no reason why he should not come in for *snuggling*, along with COULSTON, the *reporter*. Let him: I will take care that the taxes he gets shall not be of easy digestion. He is now acting the part of the lowest government tool that ever appeared upon this stage of corruption. He had yesterday (Wednesday) a long extract from BOWRING'S FORTHCOMING REVIEW," some of "the sheets of which he had had "the good fortune to obtain before they "were published!" Oh! wretched political impostor! And not tell CLEMENT'S customers that you are a partner with BOWRING! In another part of this *Register* these political impostors are fairly strung up.

With regard to the proceedings at the review, *The Times* has omitted to state that, when WELLINGTON came off the ground he was hissed and groaned at all the way from the middle of the park down to his house, which is at the corner of it; and that he was guarded by about three hundred of the police until he got fairly into his house, which has got iron bullet-proof blinds. The newspapers tell us that on the 26th instant, this Duke gave a grand entertainment to the King and Queen at his bullet-proof house; and that the royal party arrived at ELEVEN O'CLOCK. At

this hour, almost the dead of night, the "populace" were of course sleeping in their beds.

NATIONAL FAITH.

AT MORPETH, in the county of Northumberland, on the 15th instant, there was a meeting to celebrate the fall of the boroughmongers, when a Mr. ROBERT SHUTE was called to the chair. The chairman, in opening the business of the day, professed his ardent attachment to *national faith*, and, upon this subject was boldly answered by a Mr. BLAKEY, who has written a very excellent and profound work, lately published, and who appears to be a very clever man. I will here give from The *Tyne Mercury* the report of what was said by these two gentlemen upon this occasion, and then I will submit to my readers a few remarks upon the subject.

CHAIRMAN—I am not one of those who would support a violation of *national faith* and *national honour* by the *confiscation of corporation or funded property*. The public creditors are the *poor*, whose pittance is vested in the *savings banks*—shall we rob them? The *retired tradesman*, the *widow* and the *orphan*, whose fortunes are in trust—are they to be despoiled? In the public funds is placed the capital of many of the *splendid charities* of our land—in taking it we should *again rob the poor*. The surplus money of *private bankers*—no! for their ruin would spread *desolation* throughout the land, and involve that of thousands.

Mr. BLAKEY—In alluding to the Reform Bill, I would beg to observe that the only way in which this measure can prove beneficial to the nation at large is, by effecting a great reduction of taxation. (Cheers.) And this brings me to make a remark upon one part of the speech of our able and worthy chairman, that the funded property of the nation was as sacred as that of private property of any other kind, and ought to be as inviolably secured. Now, gentlemen, from this opinion I *entirely dissent*. (Loud cheers.) I consider our public debts to be the source of by far the greater part of the difficulties and troubles of the nation; and also that the Parliament has a *just right* to reduce the interest of this debt in any proportion which the wants or exigencies of the state may demand. (Cheers.) By far the greater part of this enormous debt was contracted for the openly avowed purpose of crushing the rising liberties of France, and keeping down principles of reform at home; and I, for my part, consider myself *absolved on principles of equity* from any obligation to support the claims of the public creditor at

his present standard of income. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then rose and said—Gentlemen, I should be wanting to myself if I suffered the eloquent but ill-judged remarks of the last speaker to pass unnoticed. The doing such an act of injustice as robbing the public creditor would cause every one to look around, and to think his turn *would come next*—that the same measure would apply to depriving him of *his house, or land, or private property*. I am not an English fundholder. I, therefore, speak disinterestedly. Before such an act of spoliation is again dreamed of, let every *useless place, pension, and sinecure* be cut down, from the coach-wheel greaser to him who directs the carriage of the state.

Mr. BLAKEY said, he would beg leave merely to make a remark explanatory of what he had said before. He agreed with the chairman that not a single farthing should be taken from the fundholder till all *unnecessary places and pensions* were abolished; but if this should prove insufficient for the country's welfare, he contended that it was both expedient and just to take off a part of the interest of the debt.

Mr. BLAKEY's answer, and the repeated "*loud cheers*" of the audience, make all commentary unnecessary; but I cannot help observing on this cant about the POOR. Just as if they had any money in the "*Savings Banks*." Just as if those, whose bellies are empty and whose backs are bare, had money to put into banks. It is the rich and not the poor who have the money in those banks; and the nation is cheated by the giving a higher interest to them than they ought to receive. The scheme was to get away every penny of money that any of the working people had, or might have; and in this way to *bind them to the infernal system*. This has totally failed. It has got the money only of old maids; little usurious shopkeepers, gentlemen's servants, excisemen, London beadles, and the like vermin; all of whom, in any political strife, are of no more consequence than so many flies or gnats. But, be the parties what they may, they have CHOSEN to become fundholders; they have not been *compelled* to become fundholders; they have not been compelled to prop up this mischievous system. They will not prop it up, it is true: they will help to pull it down; but the intention of the savings banks was to prop it up; and, as the nation did not compel them to endeavour to prop it up, so it is not

bound to make good what they may lose by their endeavour to prop it up.

As to "*retired tradesmen*," just the same may be said of them; and with regard to "*widows and orphans*," they must, as other widows and orphans do, take the consequences of the indiscretion or evil disposition of their husbands and parents. If I were to die, leaving my wife and children in distress, in consequence of my having laid out my money in *Spanish bonds*, or in a *canal speculation*, the shares in which had become not worth a penny in the pound, would the public be called upon to provide for my widow and children? No: they must abide by the evils inflicted upon them by my indiscretion or my greediness.

What! and are the funds belonging to "*public charities*" actually *lent to the Government*? What! lend the poor's money to the Government and not give it to them! Poh! No wonder that the audience cheered Mr. BLAKEY. It is a curious sort of *national faith* that takes the money left to the poor and lends it to the Government. If I wanted to triumph in an argument upon this subject, there is no man that I would sooner have for an adversary than Mr. SHUTE; who, though I dare say he is a very worthy man, has, I am very sure, never taken time to look well into this subject: if he had, he would be satisfied that if the interest of the debt continue to be paid, the reform of the Parliament will not be worth a pin.

FUNDHOLDER'S CASE.

London, 4th June, 1832.

SIR,—As a reader of your *Register* for a period of more than twenty years, and as a general admirer of your writings, I flatter myself you will hold me excusable in venturing to propound one question to you. I am a retired military officer, who, after a term of nearly thirty years' service, passed almost wholly in ungenial climes, and who having more than once bled in our country's cause, thought myself well entitled to retire to my native village, and enjoy in security the pittance de-

rived from the sale of my commission: but I was allowed the sale of those commissions *only* which I had previously *purchased*. From the public, therefore, I have never received one boon. The proceeds arising from the sale of my commission I took in hard sovereigns (not in depreciated paper) *to the Government office for the reduction of the national debt*, and purchased therewith a *life annuity*, which, by-the-bye, barely yielded me six per cent., what they call the *consols* having been at the time 96. Now, the question I submit to you, Mr. Cobbett, is simply this:—"Whether you think that any "*Parliament*' reformed or unreformed, "*could, without gross injustice and gross cruelty*, deprive me of the pittance "*for which it is clear I have greatly overpaid the public*, and thus consign "*to the poor-house an old worn-out officer*, whose only error would have "*been a generous confidence in his country's faith*?"

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,
A RETIRED OFFICER.

ANSWER.

This gentleman must be considered by me merely as a *fundholder*. His soldiering affair he entered into and went out of in his own way, and according to his own pleasure. It is a sort of mixed matter of *glory* and of *trade* that I do not much understand; but this I know, that he was well paid for his services by the nation while he was a soldier, and that the nation owes him nothing, at any rate, on that score. It is as a *fundholder* that I must view him. I say that the nation is not *bound to pay any fundholder one single farthing*. This gentleman chose to lend his money to them who had the carrying on of the *THING*, there was no compulsion in the case: he might have bought land with his money, or bought a *rent charge*. He chose to be a *fundholder*: he chose to lend his money to the *THING*: by such *LOANS* the *THING* has been able to oppress us. As the law now stands he has a right to

his annuity: but I am ready to prove at any time, and I have proved a hundred times over, that it would be "*injustice*" and "*cruelty*," in a reformed Parliament, not to alter that law. That it will be altered this gentleman may be well assured; and, if *he do not sell his annuity as soon as he can*, he will now read my *Register* with as little advantage as he appears to have done it for the last *twenty years*, during which time I have been constantly maintaining, that the nation owed the fundholders not one single farthing, and that, finally, not one farthing would it pay them.

WM. COBBETT.

CHEAP RELIGION.

Portsea, 5th June, 1832.

SIR,

The Reform Bill at length has become the established law of the kingdom, in effecting of which I consider you to have been a principal instrument in the hands of Providence. The next work to be done, which will be of the greatest importance, is to rectify the antichristian, sinful, and abominable traffic existing in the church. It is the covetous-hearted priest, always acting diametrically opposite to the Gospel of Christ, that has given rise to all the malicious atheism and infidelity which are so notorious in our otherwise happy land. Christ said to the Jews, that they "*had made his Father's house a den of thieves*," because sheep and oxen were sold, and money-changers sitting, in the outer courts of the temple. Now, the church sale is not oxen and sheep, but holy things, *cures of souls, parsonages, vicarages, tithes, &c. &c.*; and our money-changers, our buyers and sellers, are chiefly consecrated persons. One priest, having two or more livings, makes gain by what he calls the Gospel, by letting these livings to others. A bishop has his thousands a year, and thousands of souls in his diocese are starving for want of necessary sustenance. Sir, I am willing to give all honour to whom honour is due; to fear God and honour the king. I am willing to render unto Cæsar the things which belong unto Cæsar, but I cannot

render unto Cæsar that which belongs to God—*my conscience*. Could the first heralds of Christianity, whose language was "*God forbid that I should make gain of the gospel of Christ*," and whose hands administered to their own necessities, arise from the dead, and view the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place, their very blood would boil with horror and consternation. They would see the titles of the Most Holy, the Right Rev. Father in God, His Grace, &c. &c. given to men who have not a spark of either holiness or grace. They would see a Protestant parson wresting tithes from a Catholic farmer, for the purpose of fattening his own hide. They would see those holy bishops sanctioning bloody wars, causing church-bells to ring, and singing Te Deums, both in Papist and Protestant countries, for rivers of blood being spilt. Christ says, "*My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom was of this world, then would my followers fight. Hence my kingdom is not of this world.*" "This commandment," says he, "I give unto you, that ye love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another as I have loved you." Where shall we find this mark of Christianity in our modern priests and bishops? They love their belly-god, and fleece their flocks. Fancy to yourself, Sir, Jesus Christ, after his divine sermon on the Mount, putting himself at the head of a bloodthirsty army, or St. Paul going with a squadron of fire and brimstone, to make more havoc than a devouring earthquake, and you will view modern Christendom depicted in its true colours.

My firm belief is, that God will not bless us as a nation till a courageous and manly resistance be made against the odious exactions of tithes. There are many clergymen who would rejoice, and hold up both their hands for its accomplishment, being assured, by the God whom they serve, that their bread and water would be sure: but every worldly antichristian priest would rave like a bear bereaved of its whelps. I beg you not to let your *Register* be

silent till these existing evils are rooted out of the church, that all may pay what they please to their priest; and the nation will have greater reason to thank you, than a Nelson, a Wellington, or any other bloody warrior that ever existed. Wishing you success,

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
WILLIAM FREEMAN.

CORONERS BILL.

In the House of Commons, on the 20th, a most interesting debate took place upon a Bill to regulate the office of Coroner. This was a most curious debate, and ended in a most curious manner. **WARBURTON** made a motion, that coroner's courts, and their inquests should be in future open to every body, like other courts of justice. This was opposed by **WETHERELL**, **CRIPPS**, **INGLIS**, **ADEANE**, and **WYNN**; but was *finally carried by a majority of pretty nearly two to one*. The affair of the Duke of **CUMBERLAND** and **SELLIS** was brought up. But I must leave the reader to form his own judgment upon the whole of this matter, just telling him that it is of the greatest possible interest. I shall have a remark or two to add after I have inserted the debate.

Mr. WARBURTON then proposed an amendment, in order to provide that all coroner's inquests should be *held in open court, to which the public might obtain admission*.

Mr. CRIPPS objected to the motion, on the ground that inquests were most frequently held in private houses, from which the public could of right be excluded by the proprietors.

Mr. O'CONNELL said that if there were any obstacle opposed to the publicity of an inquest, on the ground that it was to be held in a private house, the coroner could adjourn to any other place. But now that he had seen something of private inquests, he could understand why so many persons were desirous of becoming coroners. (Hear, hear.) Having the power to exclude witnesses and reporters, they might expect to turn the office to account. To put such a case as had been stated by the hon. Member for Preston, he would suppose that a man had died in jail, had been murdered in jail—and such things had sometimes happened (hear)—what security was there that the coroner's inquiry would lead to a full and fair investigation, if the inquest could be held in secret? In all such cases, the only protection which the people could have was

by the free admission of the reporters for the public press. He looked upon the impunity of those who were concerned in the celebrated murders at Manchester to have been secured by the imperfection of the law respecting the coroner's court. The highest courts of law were open, although in them there was some guarantee for justice, in the education, experience, previous character, and responsibility of the judge; whereas, neither experience nor education, nor any qualification whatever was required in the coroner who had the power of deciding absolutely and in secret. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. STRICKLAND looked upon the motion as one of the greatest importance. He thought that publicity was most desirable in all cases of judicial inquiry, and especially in those inquiries which, from their nature, were the most likely, when conducted in secret, to give rise to painful suspicions in the public mind. He should therefore support the motion.

Sir R. INGLIS would not consent to the coroners being deprived of the power of protecting persons who were accused upon insufficient grounds, from the injury which an *ex parte* publication might occasion. In extreme cases, the coroner ought to have the power to exclude all who were not concerned in the inquiry.

Mr. O'CONNELL said that it was only by a judge made law, of no longer existence than the last sixteen years.

Mr. HUNT would not only support the motion, but he had heard enough from the opponents of the motion, to remind him of the expediency of inserting in the bill a clause to prevent the coroner for Westminster from dismissing the jury, which he might have called in the first instance, and summoning another, in a case where a murder had been committed in the palace of St. James. (Hear, hear.) For he knew of a case of that kind, out of which had grown a prosecution for libel, which he believed was now before one of the criminal courts. A man was murdered in the palace of St. James, and the coroner having called one jury, dismissed it, and summoned another. (Hear, hear.) The consequence was, that the bloody and mysterious transaction had never undergone a thorough investigation, for the person who was principally implicated had never been examined. (Hear, hear.) He would appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether (in the present times, when so much was said by him and his friends of their regard for the liberties of the people,) that noble Lord would continue to the coroners the power of secret inquisition, which they claimed, and which was little better than a restoration of the Star-chamber? (Hear, hear.)

Sir CHARLES WETHERELL complained that the hon. Member for Preston had made a most uncalled-for accusation against the conduct of the coroner and jury who had investigated the case in which that hon. Member had alluded to a way which no one could mis-

understand. The hon. Member had thought fit to state that the person principally concerned in a murder committed within the precincts of St. James's Palace had not been examined on the inquest. But the hon. Member must be aware that the principal person—that is, the man who was guilty of the murder—had killed himself, and could not be examined by the coroner, otherwise than by the inspection of the murdered body; and from that and the other testimony, it was plain that the man had cut his own throat. The hon. Member for Preston must have read the libel to which he had alluded, and he ought not to have made himself a copyist of so scandalous a libel. (Hear.)

Mr. HUNT had read the libel as it appeared in the reports of the hon. and learned Member's speeches. (Hear, and a laugh.)

Sir C. WETHERELL asked what then was it that the hon. Member for Preston had dared to say?

Mr. HUNT—Hear, hear. (Laughter.)

Sir C. WETHERELL would ask again, what was it that the hon. Member for Preston had dared to state, in allusion to the case in which the name of a certain illustrious person was implicated?

Mr. HUNT—Hear, hear, hear! (Laughter.)

Sir C. WETHERELL would tell the hon. Member that his statement was not true. (Hear, hear.) It was not true that the jury first summoned had been dismissed, in order that another might be summoned. The law was, that if a murder should be committed in the palace, the jury must be taken from the King's domestics. But in the case to which the hon. Member for Preston had thought proper to refer, a jury of persons unconnected with the palace was summoned, in order to preclude the least suspicion of partiality. (Hear, hear.) Having given that answer to the statement of the hon. Member for Preston, he must say that it was the bounden duty of that Gentleman, as a member of the House, to declare that what he stated was inaccurate and untrue, and that he (Mr. Hunt) had been misinformed; for he (Sir C. Wetherell) could assure the hon. Member that it was "*physically demonstrated*" upon the inquest to have been impossible that the man had died by any other than his own hand. "Face to face with Mr. Place" (laughter)—the foreman of that Jury—the hon. Member for Preston would not have dared to state what he had inaccurately and untruly stated in the House of Commons (Hear, hear.) The hon. Member for Preston, were he in the presence of any one of those jurors, would rather be in any other breeches than his own. (Much laughter.) The statement of the hon. Member for Preston was so audacious, that no other man in the House would dare to make it.

Mr. HUNT—Perhaps not.

Sir C. WETHERELL continued: No other Member would have the temerity. (Hear, hear! from Mr. Hunt.) There was no more reason to complain of the privacy of the coro-

ner's inquest, than there would be to accuse the grand jury of conniving at the impunity of a murderer, because they threw out the bills. In conclusion, he maintained that no reason had been given for altering the present state of the law upon the subject in question.

Mr. HUNT, having made no attack upon any member of that House, had, however, very little difficulty in accounting for the attack which had been made upon him. (Hear, hear.) The hon. and learned Member had, no doubt, professional reasons for driving him to this, that, and the other, which he well knew he could and would do. The hon. and learned Member had dared to accuse him of audacity; but at the same time he (Sir C. Wetherell) had not the audacity to say that the inquest had been satisfactory. The hon. and learned Member said that he (Mr. Hunt) had told untruths, but at the same time had shrunk from meeting the most important fact, which he (Mr. Hunt) had stated, namely, that the principal person, the Duke of Cumberland, the hon. and learned Gentleman's client, had not been examined. (Hear.) He would therefore still say that the mysterious and bloody case had not yet been investigated. He hoped that it would. (Hear.) The hon. and learned Member had dared to say, in terms not the most refined, that he (Mr. Hunt) would not dare to say in the presence of Mr. Francis Place, that the inquest had not been satisfactory. But the fact was, that twenty years ago, four days after the murder, he told Mr. Place what were his opinions upon the subject. From all that he had heard from Mrs. Sellis, and from the mother of the murdered man, respecting the appearance of the bed upon which Sellis was found lying, the basin full of blood, and the razor (placed upon a bureau at some distance from the bed), he thought it impossible that, if all the evidence had been heard, an honest unpacked jury would have found the verdict which the hon. and learned Gentleman so much relied upon. It might be very well for the hon. and learned Gentleman to say, in that House, that the principal person had cut his throat, but it was well known that the person principally accused in the opinion of the public had not been examined. (Cries of hear, hear, and question.) The person most implicated was still living. (Loud cries of hear, and question.)

Mr. CRIPP said that the policeman who first entered the room acknowledged to him that he had, in a moment of agitation, removed the razor from the bed to the bureau.

Mr. ADEANE was desirous to put an end to a conversation which had so little relevancy to the question. He would oppose the amendment, because he thought it expedient that the preliminary proceedings of such a court as that of the coroner should not be made public without the permission of the judge.

Mr. O'CONNELL contended, that before the coroner there should be no secrecy whatever. The grand jury was at present a secret tribunal, and that formed the best possible rea-

son why the court of the coroner should be thrown open. He would take his stand upon the broad principle, that every court of justice ought to be open to the public.

Mr. PORTMAN would support the clause contemplated in the amendment of the hon. Member for Bridport, but not on the ground taken by the hon. and learned Member for Kerry. On the subject of the secrecy of grand juries, he had only to say, that if grand juries ceased to be a close court, he feared that greater injury would arise than could be compensated for by any advantage which publicity could ensure.

Mr. WARBURTON said, that the question of the publicity of Grand Jury proceedings was not before the House. He should certainly take the sense of the House upon his amendment.

Mr. CRIPPS admitted the great value of publicity, generally speaking, but thought that a discretionary power might safely be vested in the coroner.

Mr. C. W. W. WYNN was also of opinion, that the observance of secrecy, or otherwise, might safely be entrusted to the coroner.

The committee then divided—

For the amendment enjoining publicity 94

Against it 54

Majority —40

After decision the had taken place, Mr. FRANKLAND LEWIS gave the Ministers a hearty scolding, for having suffered this amendment to be carried. After this, the following is reported to have taken place.

Mr. BARING wished to ask, if an inquest was to be held in a private house, was that house to be open to *all the blackguards of the street*? Would it be imperative on the coroner to open all the doors of the house to the public.

Mr. O'CONNELL said, the coroner was not bound to hold the inquest in the room of the person. He wished to know what was meant by *all the blackguards of the street*? *The Courts of Chancery and of King's Bench were open—were they intruded upon by all the blackguards in the street*? The coroner might keep order in his court, and exclude disturbers, just as well as the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. CRIPPS asked would the clause not compel the coroner to open his court though he held the inquest in a private room?

Mr. O'CONNELL said the coroner might do that at present, and might admit *all the blackguards in the street if he pleased*.

Sir R. PEEL said, if the court were open, *without using the word blackguards*, an inquest in a private house might be attended by persons improper and disagreeable. He wished to know, therefore, whether the view of the body in a private house was not a judicial act, and ought to be performed in public like any other part of the coroner's inquest?

Mr. PETIT was understood to say, that the visiting the body could not be considered as a

judicial act at which the public should be present. The visitation might take place, though the inquest might be held in another place.

Sir R. PEEL said a few words, insisting that the visitation was a judicial act, at which the public, according to this clause, would be entitled to be present.

Mr. O'CONNELL said, the public might undoubtedly be present, but it was only that part of the public which could be conveniently admitted. The principle of the clause was to take away from the coroner the power of making his court secret and close.

Blackguards! Bless us! We shall all be directly a heap of blackguards and swindlers, except the millionnaires and their tribes. I never heard such a talk about blackguards before. To hear this language of "our representatives," one would think we were all downright scum of the earth. However, we are now to be admitted to the coroner's inquests; and, therefore, that matter is settled. It was a pity that WETHERELL and HUNT should fall out at last, especially as there is now no chance of their making it up again.

BARING'S BILL.

THIS bill was recommitted in the House of Commons on Wednesday, the 17th instant. Lord ALTHORP voted against it; but it was suffered to go into the committee. There, I suppose, it will lie till doomsday; but I WISH THEY MAY PASS IT! We have jostled it and hustled it and tumbled it and turned it about; and, NOW LET THEM PASS IT; and let them leave it TO US to send men to pass a *similar bill for the Lords*! PEEL'S-BILL PEEL says, that he dares say that the Lords will originate such a bill themselves. PEEL'S-BILL PEEL dares to say a great many thing that I should not dare to say. Oh, no! the Lords may *forget* it; and we will instruct our new members not to let their Lordships to go to make laws, unless they punctually pay their debts! Ah! BARING: you thought you were deep; but you did not see this! LET THEM PASS IT, again I say: I want them to pass it now that it has been well exposed; and now they will not pass it. It is very cruel in them never to do anything that I want the mto do, while they do so many,

many things that I want them not to do. Let them pass it by all means; and our new members will take care to extend it to the Lords upon the old maxim, that "sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander."

LIBEL TRIAL.

THE following account of an action for libel against Mr. WAKLEY, is interesting in itself; but more so on this account; that, while the jury gave a *farthing* damages in the case of Mr. WAKLEY, a jury gave the next day in the same court, *four hundred pounds* damages, in an action brought by this very same person for the very same paragraph, and that paragraph taken from the publication of Mr. WAKLEY. The only difference in the two cases was this; that the last defendant had *four counsel* to plead for him, and that Mr. WAKLEY had *nobody but himself*. Serjeant WILDE lead the plaintiff's case upon both occasions; and Mr. WAKLEY gave him a cut *so deep*, that I will not attempt to open the wound here.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—MONDAY.

[Nisi Prius Sittings at Westminster, before Mr. Justice BOSANQUET and a Special Jury.]

RAMADGE v. WAKLEY.—This was an action for alleged libel, to recover compensation, brought on the part of Dr. Ramadge, of Ely-place, Holborn, against Mr. Wakley, of *The Lancet*, for a letter reflecting on his character in that periodical. The defendant pleaded the general issue.

For the plaintiff appeared Messrs. Serjeants WILDE and SPANKIE, with Mr. ADOLPHUS and another; and Mr. Wakley himself conducted his own defence.

Serjeant WILDE briefly stated the case to the jury—expatiated on the character of his client, at the same time that he conceded merit to the defendant—laid down some of the principles of libel actions, showed that the present case came within those principles, and read the libel complained of, which was published in the number of *The Lancet* for the 20th of August, 1831, which was a letter from a correspondent of that publication as follows:—

"RESULT OF UPHOLDING QUACKS.

"To the Editor of *The Lancet*."

"SIR—The following account of a medical fracas shows that your strictures against quacks and their coadjutors are duly appreciated by respectable medical men. Ten days ago, Miss Emma Bullock, of No. 1, Glou-

cester-place, Old Kent-road, was attacked by a fever, which was declared to be typhus. The young lady was attended by Dr. Ramadge and Mr. —, a medical practitioner in — street. For some reason she was not bled until Friday, when a vein in the arm was opened, and eight dozen leeches were applied to the head and neck. On Saturday the temporal arteries were opened on both sides; she fainted, and the apothecary having left her, the nurse succeeded in bringing her round with tea-spoonsful of wine and water, and from a state of delirium she became rational, though very weak. On Sunday another dozen of leeches were applied, and immediately afterwards she became delirious, when Dr. Tweedie's advice was required by the lady's relations. That gentleman, on his arrival, spoke to Dr. Ramadge privately—the purport of which may be guessed from what followed. Dr. Tweedie, in the presence of Dr. Ramadge and Mr. —, addressed Mrs. Reynolds (the sister of the patient), and said, 'that having attended the family before, he should be happy now to give his assistance to the young lady; but that Ramadge's conduct in a late correspondence with John Long had been such, that no man of respectability could call him in or consult with him without injuring himself in the eyes of his brethren; that he (Dr. Tweedie) bore no private pique against Dr. Ramadge—he believed him, indeed, to be clever—but his character (as regarded the above transaction) rendered it imperative on all medical men to decline acting with him; and Mrs. Reynolds must, therefore, choose which she would entrust.' Dr. Ramadge replied, in great anger, that he was a gentleman by birth and education, as well as profession; but that Dr. Tweedie was neither. * * * Dr. Tweedie answered him by turning coolly on his heel and walking out of the room. It is needless to say that after this Dr. Tweedie was retained. He ordered the instant cessation of mercurial frictions, of the tea-spoonful of calomel, the draughts, pills, potions, powders, &c. A composing draught was given, and nourishing beef-tea ordered, lotions to the head, &c. were applied, and under this treatment the patient was recovering. 'Who can decide when doctors disagree?' What can we poor, uninitiated think of such opposite opinions? The names of the parties are stated in full that the truth may be ascertained. I am told Ramadge is frequently at supper with John Long.

"London, July 28th, 1831.

"ONE."

The Lancet was admitted to be the publication of the defendant, and a declaration, as in such cases, was adduced by the plaintiff, which averred he was a physician of knowledge and notoriety, of science and of skill and integrity—that he had been called in the above case—and that he had treated the lady properly, &c.

The apothecary alluded to in the libel was a Mr. Bradford, who was called as a witness, and the only witness in the action. He de-

posed, that the young lady having become indisposed about the 15th of July, last year, he had been called in as the customary attendant and nearest medical adviser of the young lady, since deceased; he (having to go out of town for a couple of days) requested Dr. Ramadge to act for him, and attend Miss Bullock; and on witness's return to town, her family still continued the Doctor, as she had not recovered. He detailed minutely the prescriptions of Dr. Ramadge, day by day; and that he was accessory to most of them. Dr. Ramadge had indeed ordered leeches, but never more than thirty at a time; he had given calomel, but not a tea-spoonful, nor more than ten pills at a prescription, each pill containing about one grain; he had, indeed, used mercurial frictions and lotions, but these the constitution of the young lady required; for she was under great nervous excitement, with inflammatory symptoms. Dr. Ramadge continued his attendance till Sunday, the 24th of July, when Dr. Tweedie visited, as a former friend and physician of the family; and on Monday Dr. Ramadge ceased. On Thursday, while under the sole medical care of Dr. Tweedie, the young lady (Bullock) was called to Heaven.

He was cross-examined by Mr. Wakley as to the state of the patient before and during, and after the attendance of Dr. Ramadge; what disease she laboured under that required such depletions and lotions, and how far she was recovering under his care—with a view to prove that Ramadge had completely mistaken the cause of her disease, and, therefore, that he had administered improper medicines, giving sedatives where he should have given stimulants, and recommending depletions where he should have recommended nourishment. Eighteen ounces of blood had been taken from her under the greatest depression—and mercury administered internally and externally. The witness, in answer, drew a demarcation between the symptoms of nervous excitement or irritability, and those of a diseased state of the brain, or of inflammatory action; and acknowledged that even in depletion there may be an increased vascular action with debility which some might mistake for nervous excitement, and give sedatives where they should have administered stimulants. He remembered when first Dr. Ramadge met Dr. Tweedie at the house of the young lady, and that the latter asked the former how he was received in respectable society after his declaration in favour of St. John Long? to which Ramadge said, that Tweedie was an impertinent fellow. Tweedie retorted that Ramadge had disgraced himself by his connexion with Long, and that no physician, having a regard for his own character, would hold a consultation with him; Ramadge said, "You are no gentleman, but the son of a mere milliner—I am a gentleman by birth, and education, and profession;" the altercation was continued in the room next the patient, and Tweedie desired the witness to

call Mrs. Reynolds, to whom he said he would not advise nor prescribe with Ramadge, and stated his reasons; Mrs. Reynolds (sister of the young Miss Bullock, and since left England) permitted Dr. Tweedie to continue, and they at length made a joint prescription, wherein, instead of the mercury and leeches and other depletives, was ordered 1 oz. of oil of turpentine, with 1 lb. barley decoction, to be made into an enema, and to be administered immediately. Also a blister, to be placed over the whole of the posterior part of her head; and powder of rhubarb 12 grs., sulphate of potash or com. op. salts 2 drs., powdered jalap 8 grs., syrup of poppy (red) $\frac{1}{2}$ dr., cinnamon water 10 drs., to be made into a draught, and taken if necessary. To this prescription both gentlemen affixed their initials; Ramadge his, to the surprise of Bradford and the chagrin of Tweedie, who soon after tore them off. Ramadge has also been forced to admit an opiate (morphia) against his will. But the wine administered by the nurse was not with the knowledge of Ramadge; and witness thought that on Friday, the 22d, there were five chances to one in favour of the life of Miss Bullock. Ramadge had examined her lungs and abdomen; but on Tuesday Dr. Tweedie also discovered other symptoms of latent disease, not suspected by Ramadge. The young lady died while under Dr. Tweedie.

Mr. WAKLEY submitted that no case was made out; that the plaintiff should come into court with clean hands, in order to claim a verdict; and he asserted that the allegations in the plaintiff's declaration of skill and integrity, &c., remained unproved.

The Learned JUDGE thought that it had been proved that the plaintiff was a physician; that he had been attending in the case of Miss Bullock, and that the remarks in the publication were made on him, in consequence of that attendance.

Mr. Wakley then entered into his defence. He sought to prove that Ramadge had degraded himself by having been the advocate of St. John Long, and animadverted severely on the character of both, particularly on that of the latter. He said that his publication had certainly been open to strictures from correspondents on any species of delinquency in the medical profession; that the letter complained of had been first sent to Mr. Bradford, who did not deny the allegations in it, and that it was evident the publication by him was to elicit truth; Dr. Ramadge had been a correspondent of his in *The Lancet*, and he would have had every opportunity for a reply had he chosen that course; but his principal object (said Mr. Wakley) was to extort money, by bringing a civil action for damages, and in such cases the liberty of the press would be a mere nullity, if infamy were to continue secreted, and quackery undragged to day and to shame. He knew not who wrote the letter, and he scarcely hesitated to attribute it to Dr. Ramadge himself (great laughter), for the

purpose of extorting money, if he (Wakley) had not been determined not to compromise in order to prevent an action, or if he could blindfold a jury into a verdict for damages. But he trusted that the age of technicalities and of trumpety-supported cases had gone, and that juries would be a shield for the just animadversions of the press on every species of infamy, physical and political. He remarked on the absence of any testimony in favour of the plaintiff but that of one single witness, who, he said, was interested, because implicated in the transaction, and thought himself aggrieved because the counsel for the plaintiff did not produce the sworn evidence of Mrs. Reynolds, which they have in possession. He trusted his cause in the hands of the jury, who, he trusted, would see the plaintiff had failed to disprove any of the assertions in the alleged libel, or to substantiate his own declaration.

The Learned JUDGE, in his charge, said that the systematic mode of treatment in general, or pursued in a specific case, was a lawful subject for fair criticism intended to improve science; but that an attack on the character of an individual, so as to degrade him in society and depreciate his prospects or property, was not. If the jury thought the publication was meant as the subject of fair criticism—and to this the jury might have a clew in the hostile spirit evinced by the defendant in his present case—and not intended against the individual, the verdict should be for the defendant; but if it was intended to degrade the individual rather than fairly to criticise, the plaintiff was entitled to their verdict. He recapitulated minutely the evidence—reminded the jury that, from the interval on which the letter bears date (28th July) to the date of publication (the 20th of August), the defendant must have had due time to deliberate. If the defendant, then having notice of the action, had a legal excuse for the publication, he was to put it on the record, and by that to abide. The defendant had not pleaded justification; but the general issue, or the denial of the libel publication.

The jury consulted for a short time, and the foreman said, "My lord, we give our verdict a shilling damages without costs."

Justice BOSANQUET—I don't know, gentlemen, that I could receive such a verdict.

Jury—And what, my lord, would be the least amount of damages to entitle costs?

Justice BOSANQUET at first said 40s., but on consulting the clerk, said, damages to any amount.

The jury then immediately gave—Damages One Farthing.

Mr. WAKLEY asked the Judge to certify, but he was opposed by Serjeant WILDE.

He then asked that he might not be required to pay for the evidence taken privately of Mrs. Reynolds, which was not produced in Court; but this the learned Judge agreed should be submitted to him another time.

This case seemed to have excited great attention; for the Court was crowded greatly during the trial by many eminent medical gentlemen, among whom were Drs. Babington, Uwins, &c. &c.; and Mr. St. John Long, during the severe animadversions on him by Mr. Wakley in his defence, appeared attentive in taking notes—"aye there's the rub."

Ramadge has a similar case to-day against Dr. Ryan for a similar publication in *The Medical Journal*.

COBBETT LECTURES.

I SHALL lecture to the people of Marylebone to-morrow night (*Saturday*), at seven o'clock, at No. 36, Castle-street East, Oxford-street; Bazaar Coffee-house.

There will be no lecture on Friday, 6th July, at SANS SOUCI, I being going into Hampshire.

WM. COBBETT.

INFORMATION WANTED,

RESPECTING the numerous people called WINDHAMS; respecting the CROLES; and respecting the JORDANS; who of them are *in the church*; who of them are *married to parsons*; who of them are *in the army*; who of them are married to *military officers*; who of them are *in the navy*, or married to *naval officers*; and what their *livings are*, what their *military rank*, or *naval rank*; and what their *race of preferment and promotion*; that is to say, whether their learning and piety, or their services, have been in proportion to their income and rank; information that it will very soon be desirable to possess.

From the LONDON GAZETTE,

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1832.

INSOLVENTS.

SAUNDERS, T. jun., Austinfriars, merchant.
WOOD, P., Theobald's-road, cabinet-maker.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

KENTON, J., High-st., Poplar, linen-draper.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

NEWLAND, N., & H. White, Portsea, drapers.

BANKRUPTS.

GARDNER, B., Holmes-buildings, London-wall, pork-butcher.

HOLLAND, W. C., Brighthelmstone, Sussex, draper.

HUMPHRYS, R., Winchester, woollen-draper.

HUNTER, W., Warwick, draper.

JACKSON, J. N., Manchester, nankeen-manufacturer.

JONES, G., Carnarvon, merchant.

JONES, J., Carmarthen, grocer.

PETERS, E. W., Coventry, wine-merchant.

SOWERBY, T., Blandford-street, Manchester-square, upholsterer.

WALTON, J., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, slater.

WATKINS, J., Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, shopkeeper.

WILDE, J., St. Alban's, Herts, maltster.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

BLACK, W., Glasgow, manufacturer.

SCOTT, J., Edinburgh, coach-builder.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1832.

INSOLVENT.

TEULON, S., Nelson-street, Greenwich, cabinet-maker.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

WAREING, W., Hollowell, Northamptonshire, miller.

BANKRUPTS.

ANDERSON, W. M., Foley-place, Mary-bonne, surgeon.

CHARLTON, T., Whitechapel, linen-draper.

COLLIER, R., Warminster, victualler.

DUNSDON, T., Worcester, pastry-cook.

EDMUNDSON, J., Manchester, cotton-manufacturer.

EDRIDGE, W. B., Long-acre, coach-maker.

FITCH, J., Halsted, Essex, auctioneer.

GICK, H., Liverpool, joiner.

HORNBY, J., Liverpool, corn-merchant.

LAWS, T., Chancery-lane, victualler.

NEWTON, H. T., Derby, liquor-merchant.

PETTET, A., Norwich, music-seller.

ROGERS, H., Oxford-street, jeweller.

ROSKELL, W. H., and T. Smith, Shoreditch, plumbers.

SALTHOUSE, J., Mountbarrow, Lancashire, cattle-dealer.

WHITTEMORE, W., Brighthelmstone, Sussex, bookseller.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

COCKBURN, R., Edinburgh, dealer in china.

STIRLING, R., Edinburgh, hay-dealer.

LONDON MARKETS.

MARK-LANE, CORN-EXCHANGE, JUNE 25.—

Our supplies have been, since this day se'n-night, of English wheat, malt, and flour, as also Irish oats, for the time of year, great: of Irish, Scotch, and foreign wheat, and Irish

flour, moderately good: of English barley, beans, and peas, as also English and foreign oats, limited. No seeds from any quarter.

This day's market was thinly attended both by London and country buyers, but as the sellers, notwithstanding the prospect of an abundant harvest, were stubbornly inclined, upon the plea that the late strong winds and heavy rains had beaten down, or lodged, consequently damaged, a considerable breadth of the growing crops, the trade was throughout very dull; with wheat and beans at fully, and malting barley, malt, flour, and boiling peas, at barely last Monday's quotations, with grinding barley and hog peas at an advance, oats, in most instances, at a depression, of from 1s. to 2s. per quarter.

In seeds, as will be seen above, there has been no fresh supply since this day se'n-night; little or nothing was doing: whence their quotations may be considered next to nominal. The lower quotation of red wheat stands higher than on this day se'n-night, on account of there being no rivet, or other very inferior red wheat offering.

Wheat	51s. to 65s.
Rye	31s. to 33s.
Barley	25s. to 30s.
— fine	33s. to 36s.
Peas, White	32s. to 35s.
— Boilers	35s. to 38s.
— Grey	32s. to 35s.
Beans, Old	34s. to 36s.
— Tick	33s. to 37s.
Oats, Potatoe	24s. to 25s.
— Poland	22s. to 24s.
— Feed	18s. to 23s.
Flour, per sack	55s. to 60s.

PROVISIONS.

Bacon, Middles, new, 45s. to 47s. per cwt.	
— Sides, new ... 49s. to 52s.	
Pork, India, new ... 127s. 0d. to —s.	
Pork, Mess, new ... 67s. 0d. to 75s. per bark.	
Cheese, Cheshire ... 54s. to 74s.	
— Gloucester, Double ... 52s. to 64s.	
— Gloucester, Single ... 42s. to 50s.	
Butter, Belfast ... —s. to —s. per cwt.	
— Carlow ... —s. to —s.	
— Cork ... —s. to —s.	
— Limerick ... —s. to —s.	
— Waterford ... 84s. to —s.	
— Dublin ... —s. to —s.	
— Edam ... 49s. to 54s.	
— Gouda ... 48s. to 50s.	
Hams, Irish ... 60s. to 70s.	

SMITHFIELD.—June 25.

This day's supply of beasts, which was chiefly composed of grass-fed Scots, Norfolk homebreds, Welsh runts, and Lincolnshire and Durham, with a few Hereford and Devonshire steers and heifers, as also a considerable number of Town's-end cows; but which, as is usual at this time of the year, embraced but few large oxen of any kind, was, with that of calves, tolerably good; of sheep and lambs,

which consisted of all breeds, but chiefly of South Downs, Kents, Lincolns, and new Leicesters, as also porkers, rather limited. The trade was, in the whole, dull; with prime small beasts and calves at an advance of 2d. per stone; with prime South Downs, and other small sheep, as also lambs not exceeding 10lbs. per quarter, at barely Friday's quotations.

Beasts, 2,727; sheep and lambs, 19,120; calves, 270; pigs, 150.

MARK-LANE.—Friday, June 29.

The arrivals this week are short, but the prices remain the same as on Monday.

THE FUNDS.

3 per Cent. Cons. Ann., shut.

THE CHURCH REFORMERS' MAGAZINE for ENGLAND and IRELAND, No. VI., for July, Price 1s. 6d.

Conducted by WILLIAM EAGLE, Esq.

CONTENTS:—Art. 1. Observations on the Means of Making the Reform Bill an efficient Instrument of Ecclesiastical Reform.—2. Property in Tithes.—3. Mr. Cheetham's New Defence of Tithes, in answer to Mr. Eagle's Legal Argument.—4. Lord Henley's Plan of Church Reform.—5. Compulsory Maintenance of the Ministers of Religion.—6. Statement of the last General Meeting of Quakers, of their objections to Tithes.—7. Non-Resident and Resident Incumbents.—8. Curates in England and Wales.—9. Ecclesiastical Benefices in the Patronage of the Crown, the Bishops, Deans, and Chapters, Universities, Colleges, and Peers, in England, Wales, and Ireland.—Monthly Retrospect of Events relating to Tithes, Church Reform, &c. &c.

E. Wilson, 88, Royal Exchange; and all Booksellers.

* * The publication of this Work being suspended until the Meeting of the Reformed Parliament, a Title-Page and Index are given with the present Number.

To Landowners, Farmers, Corn-Factors, Millers, Maltsters, Butchers, Flour-Dealers, Wool-Merchants, &c. &c.

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS, Agricultural and Trading Newspaper, of the largest size, price only Sevenpence.—Published every Monday evening, in time for the Post.

In it will be found—The fullest particulars of Monday's Market at Mark Lane, and all the other Markets, Home and Foreign, of the Week; Meat Markets, and Reports of Fat and Lean Stock Markets; State of the Wool Trade, Home, Colonial, and Foreign, Current

Prices, &c.; all important matters occurring in the Agricultural and Trading World; a List of the principal Fairs to take place every ensuing Week; all Improvements, Patents, &c.; Concise Statements of the Effects of New Decisions in Courts of Law, and the earliest Notice of Motions and Bills in Parliament affecting the interests of Landlords, Tenants, Manufacturers, &c.; particular attention to all changes in the Laws of moment to the Maltster and Retail Brewer, the Prices of Malt and Hops, Wine, Spirits, &c.; and all that can constitute a desirable Family Newspaper and Record of Facts, &c. for the information and guidance of men of business.

Orders received by the Publisher, W. Jenkinson, at the Office, 336, Strand, London; and by all Booksellers and Newsmen throughout the Empire.

"The 'Mark-Lane Express,' a new paper devoted to the agricultural and commercial interests, as well as to general intelligence and politics. It is well printed, and apparently well conducted, and promises to be a useful newspaper to persons in trade."—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

"An excellent weekly paper, which should be in the possession of every corn-merchant and general trader."—*Lancaster Herald*.

"A new agricultural paper, very appropriately named, and very well conducted."—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

CHEAP CLOTHING!!

SWAIN AND CO., Tailors, &c.,
93, FLEET-STREET,

(Near the new opening to St. Bride's Church.)

REQUEST the attention of the public to the following list of prices (for cash only) which they charge for:—

Gentlemen's Dress Coats of Medley	l. s. d.
Colours.....	2 12 0
Ditto, ditto, Best Saxony Cloth....	3 0 0
Saxony Kerseymere Trousers.....	1 8 0
Ditto ditto Waistcoats.....	12 0
Figured Silk ditto.....	18 0
Venetian Leather Shooting Jackets..	1 10 0
Barogan ditto.....	1 8 0
A Plain Suit of Livery.....	4 4 0

Ladies' Habits and Pelisses, and every description of Clothing for young gentlemen, equally cheap. The whole made from goods of the finest quality, and the CUT and WORKMANSHIP not to be surpassed.

I recommend Messrs. Swain and Co. as very good and punctual tradesmen, whom I have long employed with great satisfaction. WM. COBBETT.

END OF VOLUME LXXVI.

Printed by William Cobbett, Johnson's-court: and published by him, at 11, Bolt-court, Fleet-street.

ag
a
ry
ts,
of
he
a-
ls,
at-
nt
es
nd
ily
he
ss.
n-
n;
h-

er
ial
ce
ly
ul
gh
ld
nt

ri-

t,)

to
ish

d.

0

0

0

0

0

0

0

le-

n,

ds

K-

o.

n,

at

.

and